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JOHN BULL

Vol. X. No. 262. SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1911. ONE PENNY.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page III. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

"JOHN BULL'S"
Companion Publications.

"MRS. BULL"

A LIVE PAPER FOR LIVE WOMEN.

Published Every Tuesday,

ONE PENNY.

"LOTINGA'S WEEKLY"

A REAL PICTORIAL SPORTING JOURNAL.

Published Every Wednesday.

ONE PENNY.

Every Reader of "John Bull" is requested to also take these journals, which will help to make his week's reading complete—for all branches of the family.

FURNITURE, SECOND-HAND.

PRIVATE SALE.

The NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET FURNITURE and ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.)

will SELL the following elegant MODERN and ANTIQUE FURNITURE, just removed from Walmer Place, St. Marylebone, Taunton Road, Lee, Hanover Square, the contents of 50 rooms. Any article can be stored free for 12 months, and can be purchased separately and delivered in town or country free of all charge. Good opportunity for dealers, boarding-house keepers, connoisseurs, and those requiring good second-hand furniture, at less than one-fourth its value.

THE DRAWING-ROOMS

furniture, which is almost new, comprises, amongst other things, a French gilt Louis XIV. drawing-room suite, upholstered in silk, designed by Monsieurs Watteau, of Paris, worth 80gs., accept 20gs.; a unique satin-wood drawing-room set, comprising cabinet with drawers enclosed, centre table, overmantel, Empire settee, two lounge chairs and six occasional chairs, all upholstered in French silk, accept 23gs., worth treble; Chippendale design drawing-room suite, 10gs.; also a Sheraton design set, 12gs.; two Chesterfields, upholstered in a fine art tapestry, convertible ends, one 40s. and the other 60s.; 5ft. stuffover settee, with rounded ends, upholstered in flowered silk, on turned gilt legs and castors, 6gs.; six divan club easy chairs, 25s. each; ten pretty and exquisite design occasional drawing-room chairs, 6s. each; very fine old Dutch inlaid cabinet; two elegant Vernis Martin cabinets; two buhl cabinets (fully inlaid), French writing bureau and a magnificent specimen cabinet, fitted with glass doors; grand piano by Broadwood, 15gs.; also grand piano by Collard and Collard, 12gs.; a magnificent instrument by Gustave Richter, £14, and a fine tone piano, £10; grand piano by C. Bechstein—no offer refused if reasonable; a brilliant tone, full compass, iron frame, trichord, boudoir grand pianoforte, in rosewood case, on fluted legs, by Steinway and Sons, No. 74,808; American organ; piano-player, by Hardman.

40 BEDROOMS COMPLETE.

Very massive square pillar all-brass bedstead, full-size, pure hair mattress, &c., from 60s.; an Italian square brass tube bedstead, 8gns.; black and brass bedstead, 30s.; 10 most massive and elaborate bedroom suites in Heppelwhite, Queen Anne, Chippendale, Sheraton, ash, white enamel, oak, &c., from 70s. each; 5ft. mahogany kneehole dressing-table, fitted with swing mirror, 30 by 21, on pedestal supports, 12gs.; washstand en suite, with vein marble table top and tile back, £4 15s.; towel rail, en suite, 15s. three occasional chairs en suite, 45s.; 6ft. mahogany wardrobe, fitted rail 10 pegs, bonnet drawer, two sliding trays, five long and two short drawers silvered glass centre, two panel doors, 9gs.; 4ft. Spanish mahogany chest of four long drawers, shaped top, with column supports, on plinth, £3 10s.; mahogany shaving stand, with circular adjustable mirror, 25s.; 3ft. 6in. birch washstand, 10s.; Sheraton design bedroom suite, 6gns.; large size fully inlaid suite, 10gs.; and one 15gs.; three old antique chests, two tallboy chests, two very fine satinwood bedroom suites, inlaid with king-wood, &c., worth 200gs.; accept 110gs.; 6ft. Sheraton design bedroom suite, 25gs., worth 60gs.; mahogany cheval glass, 5gs.; 3ft. mahogany robe, two bedside tables, &c.

DINING-ROOMS, SMOKE-ROOMS, LOUNGES, &c.

An elaborate carved oak dining-room set, consisting of two Elizabethan design carved oak chairs, six small chairs to match, most elegant and massive carved oak sideboard, with bevelled plate-glass back, extending dining table, all to match, six very fine specimens of reproductions of Chippendale chairs upholstered in crimson leather; also Sheraton design set, Heppelwhite set, a very fine Queen Anne dining-room set, 8gs.; mahogany-frame high-back open arm-chair upholstered in crimson leather, 3gs.; stuffover couch upholstered in crimson morocco, 4gs.; mahogany-frame open arm-chair in morocco, £2 15s.; six walnut-frame dining chairs, seats upholstered en suite, 6gs.; two oak bookcases, a morning-room set in solid oak, comprising oak Welsh dresser, with copper fitments, and a William and Mary design suite upholstered in red leather, table, over-mantel, all to match, accept 13gs.; 6ft. 6in. oak sideboard, 4ft. chiffonnière, 6ft. walnut dining table, seven leaves, 4ft. 6in. grained walnut writing table, ormolu clock, a real Chippendale corner cupboard, three dining tables, opening to 16ft. from 60s.; mahogany dinner wagon, a convertible billiard-dining table with balls, cues, &c.; an old oak coffer; two grandfather's clocks chiming on tubes; the garniture de cheminée, of Egyptian design, in rough marble and ormolu, comprising clock in sarcophagus case, with female bust and pair of vase-shaped two-light candelabra with bird supports and marble base, £5 5s.; morocco Chesterfield and two club easys to match; Turkey and Persian carpets, fine specimens, also Axminster, Brussels, and other carpets, from 20s. each; about 16 pairs very fine silk curtains and mantel drapery to match; a rare collection of china, including a very fine Wedgwood dessert service; Dresden coffee set, Sevres Dresden, and other china; collection of fine old silver and Sheffield plate in Georgian and other designs; canteen of silver; 100 pieces, 7gs.; two very fine sets of English cut table glass; large quantity of bed and table linen, curtains, etc.; some rare oil and water-colour paintings and engravings; several pieces of plate by Mappin and Webb; two plated candelabras and three pairs candlesticks; some very fine and unique bear and tiger skins mounted as rugs, full heads; 10 cases of wines, assorted; very fine cigar cabinet Parisian victoria, miniature brougham, and two motor-cars; two wine bins, etc. All can be seen, and are being sold without any reserve, every day from nine till nine, except Saturday, when we close at seven, at

THE NEWMAN and OXFORD STREET FURNITURE AND ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.), AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS,

92, 93, 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W. One door from Oxford Street, three minutes from Tottenham Court Road and Regent Street, and adjoining all the principal Tubes. Tele. 1,307, Central. £10,000 worth of genuine second-hand furniture always on view. Second-hand furniture bought to any extent.

The LARGEST STOCK of GENUINE SECOND-HAND ANTIQUE and MODERN FURNITURE in ENGLAND. WE HAVE ALWAYS on HAND £150,000 WORTH of GOOD and SUPERIOR SECOND-HAND FURNITURE ALWAYS to be DISPOSED OF. CATALOGUES NOW READY. FULL PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION.

New Life for Invalids, Renewed Strength for the Weak, Greater Vigour for the Brain-worker, a Wealth of Health for Everyone.
To instantly invigorate—to permanently strengthen—to safeguard you against illness and disease—to make you healthier and happier—and to equip you with an abundance of reserve strength—that is the mission of "Wincarnis." As you take your wineglassful of
WINCARNIS
during you will feel yourself getting stronger, and you will experience a delicious increase of vigour, vitality, and reserve strength as the rich, re-vitalised blood goes dancing through your veins, making your whole body tingle and glow with new life.
Test Wincarnis at our Expense.
Send the Coupon below, and by return of post you will receive a liberal trial bottle of "Wincarnis."
FREE TRIAL COUPON
COLEMAN & CO., LTD.
Wincarnis Works, Norwich.
Please send me a Free Bottle of "Wincarnis." I enclose three penny stamps to pay carriage.
NAME .....
ADDRESS .....
"JOHN BULL," June 10th, 1911.

PRICE 6d & 1/- PER BOX.

Post Free 7½d & 1/1½

JUNON TOOTH POWDER

IT RENDERS THE TEETH PEARLY WHITE PREVENTS DECAY. GIVES A DELICIOUS FRESHNESS TO THE MOUTH. AND STRENGTHENS THE GUMS

PREPARED BY JUNON LTD MARSHAM ST WESTMINSTER LONDON S.W.

Post Free 7½d & 1/1½

PRICE 6d & 1/- PER BOX.

Prepared from the prescription of a Famous London Dentist.

JUNON Hair TONIC

Restores gloss and Brilliancy—stops hair falling—nourishes and strengthens the roots—removes dandruff—positively makes the hair grow—is a beneficial and pleasant dressing for daily use,

Recommended for use in conjunction with JUNON Hair Stains.

Two kinds: Greasy for dry and brittle hair; Non-greasy for greasy hair.

Post 1/- & 2/6 Free

Securely packed in plain package.

JUNON Hair STAIN

This is the only permanent and really satisfactory one-solution hair stain—absolutely harmless—perfectly natural tints—easily applied in one operation—defies detection—does not stain the skin.

In Eight Standard Shades:—Black, Dark Brown, Medium Brown, Chestnut, Golden Chestnut, Light Golden Chestnut, Golden, Light Golden.

Post 1/- & 2/9 Free

Securely packed in plain package.

JUNON Ltd., 57, Marsham St., Westminster, S.W.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant :
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. X. No. 262. Saturday, June 10th, 1911. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters.
All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

TO ADVERTISERS.

All applications for advertising spaces to be made to Messrs. Odhams Ltd., Advertising Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

MR. HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, M.P.,
Will Address a MONSTER MEETING of his Constituents
IN THE
HACKNEY EMPIRE (Mare Street, Hackney)
TO-DAY (SATURDAY, JUNE 10th),
At 3.30 p.m.

Chairman: T. E. YOUNG, Esq., B.A.
(Ex-Mayor of Hackney).

At this Meeting Mr. Bottomley will explain his attitude of independence in the House of Commons, and his present relationship towards the South Hackney Liberal and Radical Association.

The meeting will be of a Non-Party character, and the Chairman will be supported by most of the Leading Public Men of the Borough.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

THE POLITICAL LULL.

Except for a little humdrum work next week in the Commons, there will be no more politics till after the Coronation. The Government has acquiesced in the decision of the Lords to adjourn their part in the "Revolution" over the festivities; and our declaration in the House and these columns, that any expectation of the passage of the Bill before the crowning of the King was "fantastic," is justified.

AND AFTER.

And after? There is really no mystery about it. The Peers will insist upon the exclusion of Home Rule and the position of the Throne from the operation of the Bill; and they will probably also claim the right to at least suggest amendments to Finance Bills. On the first two points they will not give way. Then the rumpus will begin.

A CORONATION COMPACT.

The truth is that there has been a Coronation compact. Both sides recognised that whilst the flags and bunting are about, the Man in the Street will refuse to be worked up to any pitch of excitement over "the Veto"—which, we are certain, would be more suggestive of a vegetable than a revolution to half our country visitors. Hence it was agreed that there should be a guarded truce for a few weeks. But when the Lords get to the Committee stage—well, then things will begin to hum. Meanwhile, the simple *Daily News* writes about their "Surrender." We will recall that phrase, later on.

AND THE END?

There's the rub! Did you notice that phrase in the peroration of Mr. Lloyd George's speech on the second reading of the Insurance Bill? He hoped the joining of forces and the spirit of co-operation which have characterised the consideration of that measure might be a precursor and a bright hope in regard to "other things in the near future"—and he glanced significantly at Mr. Balfour. In other words, the Government are prepared to compromise—*but they will not be allowed to.* Mr. Ramsay Macdonald will, of course, acquiesce in anything they may propose, but Mr. Redmond will not give way. And who can blame him? He will never get such another chance. And he knows it. Thus, we are in for a lively time. What the outcome of it all will be, we discuss in another column.

SOUTH HACKNEY.

Meanwhile, South Hackney leads the way. On Saturday we shall ask this great metropolitan constituency for a mandate— a mandate to tell the Government that the Constitution of our country should not be made the plaything of Party, by one side or the other; that the duty of Parliament is to do justice equally to all sections of the community; to harass no legitimate industry; to give free scope for the enterprise and activities of the citizen—with equality of opportunity for all—*and to attend to the business of the nation.* And we think we shall not ask in vain.

THOSE UNCLAIMED BANK BALANCES.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has promised that if satisfied of a general desire on the part of the House for an Enquiry into this subject, he will favourably consider the appointment of a Select Committee. Now we shan't be long!

AKBAR REFORMATORY SCANDAL.

Mr. Bottomley has given notice that upon the vote for the salary of Mr. Masterman he will move to reduce it from £1,500 to £400, as a protest against his conduct of the recent enquiry.

THE REFORMATORY ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

Meantime, there is growing dissatisfaction at the nomination of Mr. Masterman as Chairman of the Committee to enquire into reformatory management. It is felt that more whitewashing is to be expected.

A Ralli-Cry.

The promise of Payment of Members seems to have impelled nearly every Liberal carpet-bagger in the country to hurry off to Dingwall. In process of time the local association reduced the aspirants to two, and a ballot was taken, with the result that Mr. Macpherson received thirty-two votes and Mr. Ralli thirty-one. Then there occurred a delightful interchange of amenities. Mr. Macpherson congratulated Mr. Ralli on having made so good a stand as a stranger, and Mr. Ralli, in returning thanks, said he regarded it as the honour of his life that he, a Sassenach, had been beaten by only one vote by a well-known and popular Highlander. We are not surprised that he should have regarded the experience as a signal honour; but one lives and learns, and it is no less surprising than refreshing to find that the name of Ralli, which we had hitherto associated with the descendants of Levantines, is really and truly a sign-manual of the Anglo-Saxon race.

A Sunday Fence.

We wonder that a respectable Sunday paper is not more careful in the supervision of its advertisements. We are accustomed by this time to find invitations to the ugly sex to see a young lady about a dog, appeals to lonely Bohemians to spend guineas on the dispersal of dull care, and other offers of marketable comfort. But we think the line ought to be drawn at direct invitations to dishonesty. Here, for instance, is an appeal: "To Valets.—Private gentleman would like to correspond with view to purchasing well-cut suits by fashionable West-end tailor; good price paid, but must be like new." As if anyone outside Colney Hatch ever gave away new clothes to his valet! We are afraid this will be construed as a deliberate offer to receive stolen goods and, if our contemporary does not put a check upon such enterprises of its own accord, we think that the police ought to answer the advertisement and follow up the clue.

A Passenger's Presence of Mind.

We congratulate a French traveller on his courage and success in ringing the alarm bell when a guard had neglected to provide him with a foot-warmer. The Company brought an action against him and he won his case hands down. We wonder whether he would have been equally triumphant if he had proceeded to such drastic measures over here! We must try it next winter.

Stamps for the Scilly Isles.

A good deal of animated controversy has been aroused by the statement of the Postmaster-General that our stamps do not bear the name of this country because there is no room for the full nomenclature. He could squeeze in Great Britain and Ireland, but does not want to provoke a riot in the Scilly Islands or the Isle of Man by leaving them out. It does not seem to have occurred to him or to anybody that a similar difficulty has been overcome in the case of coins, which in some cases, alas! are even smaller than postage-stamps. But after all, perhaps the best answer is the arrogant one that people who use our stamps may be expected to take the trouble to find out for themselves what country they belong to.

After Us, the Kaiser.

Germany has expressed its intention of entering into a We'll-never-go-to-war-with-you treaty with America on lines similar to those which Britain is negotiating. If Taft gets many more orders of this kind, he will be able to beat his swords into ploughshares and his spears into almighty dollars. Now if Germany will only make an everlasting peace treaty with us—bothered if we won't go and buy ourselves another *Dreadnought!*

Poor, But Honest.

With all their shortcomings, the Labour Exchanges have done one good turn to the working classes. Perhaps those people who are for ever representing the unemployed as unemployable will kindly note the fact that, out of £2,400 advanced to work-seekers, no less than 92 per cent. was repaid in the course of a few months, and the balance is expected to come in very shortly. Quite apart from honesty, the ability to pay is very gratifying and should encourage social reformers to persevere with efforts in the same direction.

A Way They Have in the Navy.

Early in 1907 the Admiralty were wanting a vessel for carrying petrol, so they bought one, giving £10,000 for it. Then they found that it wanted fitting for its work, so they spent another £25,000 and over three years' time on the job; now it is discovered that they could have built a brand-new ship specially for the purpose for much less money and in much less time. The responsible people in a business concern who did such jackass deeds would be promptly kicked out, but the Admiralty is a Government concern, and any M.P. who dares question its actions is a traitor to his party. "Oh for that ——!"

A Marvellous Motor-Boat.

We confess we had to open our eyes rather wide when we read the wonderful story of Mr. Max Schuster and his motor-boat. Coming home at midnight to Eel-Pie Island, he was unfortunate enough to tumble overboard, and, on rising to the surface, saw his craft hurrying home in front of him. Nothing daunted, he started swimming with true British pertinacity. Though weighed down by his clothes, he gained slowly but surely, and after covering a mile in fifty minutes, he caught up the boat and scrambled on board. Now we are quite aware that motor-boats are not always very speedy, especially when they are left to direct their own course, but surely this one ought to win the booby-race if it took fifty minutes to cover a mile. And this is not Mr. Schuster's first aquatic experience!

Shaw and——

In a lecture at Cambridge a few days since, Mr. George Bernard Shaw remarked that "the man who said Christ was the highest possible being is not worth working wtih." The highest possible being is to B. Shaw.

Coseley as a Stench Pot.

If the inhabitants and ratepayers of Coseley (Wolverhampton) do not compel the members of the District Council to put their sanitary affairs in order, they will sooner or later have to extend the boundaries of the cemetery. The accommodation in many of the houses is an abomination, and we are told it is only with the utmost difficulty that the sanitary department can be induced to fulfil its duty of removal, the emptyings averaging about twice in a year. If the District Councillors will not arrange to alter this disgusting and dangerous state of things, aggrieved householders should make strong representations to the President of the Local Government Board.

"Before Retiring to Rest."

The Northern Publishing Office, Belfast, is responsible for the publication of a card now being pushed under the doors of householders. One side is worded thus: "(Please fill this up and put it over your bed before retiring to rest.) If I die to-night I will go to—— Signed——Address——Date." At the bottom is a text. To ask one to announce in the evening where he will go to if he dies before the morning, strikes us as a gross incitement to inaccuracy. There are journeys over which even the railway companies have no control.

Who He Was, Eh?

Can General Botha, now in London, enlighten us concerning Britz—General Britz—of Standerton, or thereabouts? Where vos dot barty now we know not, but at Dingaan's Day Feast, in New Denmark (South Africa), Britz is reported to have appealed to parents not to let their children marry any of the English race. "You must not let this Colony become a bastard race, the same as Cape Colony," he went on. "If God had wanted us to be one race he would not have made a distinction between the English and Dutch." We suspect General Britz to have never been anybody in particular, and to be of about the same importance now. He seems to have done no fighting in the war, but is now making up for it by jawing in the peace. Of course there may be an element of truth in his statements. It is not for us to say why God made different races. Perhaps He didn't—for it has always been a source of wonder to us how they could all have come from Adam and Eve. But if He did, it is plain that He didn't make them all on the same model. It is a pity Britz wasn't about at the time.

"When Constabulary Duty's to be Done."

There is much heart-burning and hair-raising in the Manchester police force through the action of the Watch Committee in fining, on the recommendation of the Chief Constable, fifteen policemen 10s. each, three sergeants and one acting sergeant a week's pay, and another officer four days' pay, for taking more than a quarter of an hour for dinner. The difference between a Chief Constable and an ordinary constable is that while the one may be as long as he likes over his dinner, the other has to be as short as he doesn't like over it. Even a policeman has his feelings, and to demand that he shall bolt off for duty at the end of a quarter of an hour, when peradventure he has only got through the *hors d'œuvres*, the soup, and the fish, with the rest of the menu still to be discussed, is a shock to his nerves and a menace to his digestive apparatus. To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose; and a quarter of an hour does not strike us as being sufficient for a policeman's dinner—unless, of course, he is taking it with cook, downstairs!

Freshwater and Liberal Ale.

The West Wight Free Church Council have been beating their bosoms in lamentation and woe because the members of the Freshwater Liberal Club have decided to construct upon the premises a bar for souls athirst. Having unanimously decided that the Freshwater Liberals should not fill full their glasses, the Council proceeded to discuss whether the Free Churches have fulfilled their mission. According to the reporter, the remarks of the Rev. J. Rawlings were "decidedly in the affirmative." We are delighted to hear it. Perhaps they will now settle down to the invention of a palatable, wholesome, and elevating temperance beverage. We will then offer a substantial prize to the first man to try it.

The Missionary in Egypt.

The missionary catch in Egypt is still very small. In his book, entitled "Cairene and Fellaheen," dealing with the work of the Church Missionary Society in Egypt during the last two years, the Rev. Mr. MacInnes confesses to one baptism in 1908, eight baptisms in 1909, and two in 1910—"all after long and careful preparation." And here is an illuminating story of the wondrous work. Taken for the first time to Communion, a convert looked at the solid bread but did not eat. The wine he swallowed at a gulp, then, handing back the cup to the missionary, he remarked, "Fill it up again, brother; I lub de Lord and I doan care who knows it."

A Problem of Justice.

"Dear Bull," writes a Battersea correspondent, "can you enlighten me as to how it is that English judges so often award diverse punishments in almost identical cases? Nay, I have very frequently noticed that the same judge rushes violently from leniency to severity in cases where nobody on earth except himself can find a shade of difference. Mr. Justice Darling has been sitting at the Old Bailey this last week, for instance. In one case a stepfather, a man of 52, was prosecuted for a criminal offence on his stepdaughter, a child under 13 years; in another case a well-dressed Russian, living in London, aged 26, was charged with a criminal assault on his niece, under the age of 13 years, and in fact had a child, still alive, by her. The stepfather gets five years; the uncle gets only 18 months." This is a familiar problem which has puzzled most, if not all, the ethical professors. And we are unable to offer more than a suggestion towards the solution. All judges are human, and it is not improbable that the severity or leniency of a judge's sentence depends on whether he has to inflict it a long time after breakfast or a short time after luncheon. A further explanation may be that the degree of consanguinity between a stepfather and stepdaughter is greater than that between an uncle and niece, we cannot say for certain—being a child in these matters.

Oh! For a Business France.

We grumble about our own Foreign Office and with just cause, so there is some consolation in reflecting that they manage these things worse in France. Here are some of the latest revelations about the Quai d'Orsay. An ex-Deputy received £600 for a commercial mission to Morocco which never took place. When furniture had to be bought and repaired at the Foreign Office and when the supply of fuel ran short, everyone was in a great state of flurry. To have obtained a bit on account or applied to Parliament for a vote would have been much too matter-of-fact a procedure for the wiseacres of the Republic, so they just took what they wanted and put the amount down on the accounts as "Cost of reception of foreign sovereigns." Perhaps that is one reason why there is nothing left for poor old Peter Karageorgevitch's provision of plum brandy.

Spiritual Vitality.

From the "Sturry Parish Magazine": "Mrs. Saunders has very kindly offered to wash the vicar's surplices free of charge, and Mrs. Marsh also does the fair linen cloth, and Mrs. Luck has undertaken to clean the Sanctuary tiles when needed. . . . *We thank God for these abundant signs of spiritual vitality in our midst.*" Thus speaks the vicar, the Rev. H. P. Brewer. Now we wonder what he would say about the vitality—spiritual or otherwise—of any good lady who will wash his socks.

Honorary Dry Nurse.

Here is an attractive advertisement:

Wanted, officer's son (between 30 and 35) as companion to a gentleman with weak eyes; willing to read *The Field*; week-ends only, in country; no salary. Write fully, giving a recommendation (for reference only after interview), Cyclist.

Imagine the joy of becoming a sort of honorary dry nurse to an old gentleman with weak eyes, for the doubtful pleasure of a stranger's society!

Advertisements of the Future.

Lark's College. What Shall we do with our Sons? Do you wish your son to become a professional politician? If so, you can do no better than send him along to us for a Special Sporty-Spouting Course. Eighty successful candidates at last General Election!! Seats positively guaranteed!!

Twice Bitten, Never Shy.

The Cambridge University Press has been treading well-worn lines with its alarming announcement that, after a certain fatal date, our encyclopædias, like our food, will cost us more. But unless all book-buyers are so steeped in folly as to be incapable of ever profiting by experience, they must surely be cognisant of the fact that the day cannot be very far distant when this precious encyclopædia will be offered them for a good deal less. The same game has already been played more than once with disastrous and even scandalous results. Is there any special reason, because an ancient university has now been entangled in the trade, why the same methods should bear entirely different fruits?

Fulham and its Sewers.

Hundreds of growls from ratepayers. It seems that the Hammersmith and Fulham sewers meet, and the L.C.C. have provided the Fulham Borough with a pumping station which is absolutely inadequate to carry away the rush during very wet weather, and in consequence after a heavy rainfall many basements of houses in Fulham get flooded. As none of the members of the Council happens to live in these basements, nothing is done in the matter. Perhaps a wholesale migration of ratepayers from Fulham would help matters along.

Gee-Whizz! Railway.

We hear a great deal about the enormous progress made of recent years in the speed of communications, and a railway magazine recently invited pity for the condition of things in 1841, when a train took 1¾ hours to travel the 32½ miles from Bristol to Bridgwater It is therefore instructive to note the wonderful advance which has been made by the same company during the last seventy years. There are now ten trains a day from Bristol to Devizes, also a distance of 32½ miles, and while nine trains actually average 1 hour 40.7 minutes, thus showing the remarkable saving of over 4 minutes after a lapse of some three generations, we find that five trains have actually deteriorated to an average of 1 hour 52.2 minutes. Pending the development of aeroplanes, we shall not be surprised to hear that many travellers may prefer to save time by walking.

"Bums" in a Borough.

We are rather glad that someone has had the courage to put the bailiffs into a Town Hall and seize a fire-engine and water-cart for debt. Perhaps this will afford a salutary lesson in economy to local bodies, who are far too prone to imagine themselves the possessors of unlimited potential wealth. With luck, we may live to see the day when Borough Councils will be packed off to a debtors' prison, or a County Council summoned to first meetings of creditors and Public Examinations in the Bankruptcy Court. With rates going up in the present reckless way, and so little to show for the expenditure, we might even find advocates for resorting to old-fashioned methods and selling wastrels into slavery. Only we doubt whether anyone would want to buy the average popular representative.

Lightning.

In connection with the St. John Baptist Parish Church Completion Fund, at Southend, a "Lightning Campaign" has been instituted by the vicar. Here is some of the lightning: Rev. L. Hughes, 2s. 6d.; Rev. W. A. Cottee, 1s. 3d.; Rev. W. Donne, 2d.; Rev. Ed. Forbes, 1s. 3d.; Rev. C. R. Hardy, 2s. 5d.; Rev. Dr. Machlen, 1s. 6d. If it depends on the parsons it is evident the Fund will have to provide a lightning conductor before St. John the Baptist is completed, or assuredly there will be an awful fire. Nothing can withstand such burning zeal.

For Lovers of Love.

We recently drew attention to Mr. W. T. Stead's society for the promotion of ping-pong and promiscuous coffee-parties. Our original informant, who sent a few shillings some years ago out of curiosity, is still receiving circulars, though he never renewed his subscription or wished to be regarded as a member. A recent packet contains notice of a new development. There is to be a "Round-About Club," to be regarded as "The English Speaker's House of Call"—a title suspiciously suggestive of a public-house—and the objects include, "Flag visits to places of interest," "Flag tables at restaurants," and other mysterious dissipations on the tiles. Lest any of our readers should have any hesitation about pulling out their guineas, we append typical advertisements from the circular:—

> A. 980. London.—Bachelor; youthful, though in the thirties; lover of love, and of all embodiments of the beautiful in nature and art, in man and woman; quiet refined tastes; warm and rich in emotion; spiritual, calm, thoughtful, dreamy, but tolerant, genial, optimistic, with keen humour and enjoyment of material life; not too conventional. Seeks access to the ken of friendly souls. Will sympathetic B's kindly write?
>
> A. 78. Egypt.—Bachelor; 39; 5 ft. 9 in.; dark; just an ordinary man; not dull nor brilliant; broad-minded; unconventional; little reserved; even-tempered; Churchman; hard worker; living in Egypt, with little opportunity of making friends; very lonely; fears deterioration. Would like to correspond with refined B's and A's of about a similar age, especially B's.

We hope the dreamy "lover of love" will be circumspect in his correspondence with "sympathetic B's."

The Ten O'Clock Law.

"Is it not time," says a Canonbury correspondent, "that some little alteration was made in the regulation that prevents one from getting a cup of coffee or similar harmless refreshment after 10 p.m. from any shop not specially licensed? On Saturday afternoons I have a practice of taking long strolls into the country round London, often returning late in the evening. When not feeling inclined for the 'pick-me-ups' of the useful hostelry, I have often tried shop after shop bearing the sign 'Refreshments,' only to be told that I cannot be served after 10, and as at this time the streets are crowded there must be many people who, like myself, do not for the moment need alcoholic refreshments, and are driven to beer or spirits or compelled to allow the dust to remain in their throats until they reach home. And when a man happens to have a landlady instead of a wife, his chances of getting a cup of hot coffee after 10 p.m. are not rosy." Probably the answer of the authorities would be that the places licensed for refreshments are not very far away from those which are not, and that they sell non-intoxicants. Still it is all very nonsensical—and we must wait for that Business Government!

Lessons from History.

Lord Avebury told the House of Lords that "in the history of the world democracies have never been permanent." In the history of the world we have never read of anything which is permanent, not even aristocracies. Lord Avebury himself is only a temporary expedient.

The Late Sir W. S. Gilbert.

The late librettist of Sullivan's operas was cheerful, good-natured, almost exhilarating in a mild way; he had a certain facility for jingling, and there was never any sting in his satires, but he attracted attention largely by the scarcity of his rivals. Still, his name has given a new adjective to our language. And that, indeed, is fame.

AN ANGRY STORM.

What a lot of good sermons have been spoilt by the vagaries of that thunderstorm which burst over London on the evening of Derby Day, and killed several persons returning from the races! You see, the lightning, most inconsiderately, also struck several churches—actually setting one on fire. Too bad!

FREEDOM OF CONSTITUENCIES.

The demand for local autonomy is spreading. There is the committee on Unionist reorganisation recommending that in future local associations should be left free to select their own candidates. The Party game is, indeed, in a bad way.

JOËL! JOËL!!

Everyone will welcome the boundless impetus graciously given to sport by His Majesty in entertaining a racing crowd at dinner on Derby night. But why was the owner of the winner omitted from the list of guests? Talk of Hamlet with the Prince of Denmark left out!

METROPOLITAN RADICAL FEDERATION'S THANKS.

The following resolution was recently passed at a meeting of the Metropolitan Radical Federation:—

> That this meeting congratulates Mr. Horatio Bottomley on his exposure of the brutal treatment exercised at the Akbar Schools, and thanks him for his efforts in the cause of humanity in this case.

OPEN AIR CAMPAIGN.

Mr. Adam, the late Schoolmaster, and Mr. Reynolds, the ex-Steward, are now organising an active outdoor campaign, to arouse public interest in the whole system of reformatory management. They will be assisted by other speakers, and pamphlets containing reprints of our various articles will be distributed at the meetings.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

HUSBAND (asking ancient riddle): Why do married men live longer than single ones?

WIFE: Because most of them live double lives.

ANOTHER GENERAL ELECTION.

All the political signs and portents point to the probability of another General Election at an early date; and both Parties are fully alive to the contingency. In the event of the Peers insisting upon the exclusion of Home Rule (which will probably be coupled with the Monarchy) from the operation of the Parliament Bill, there will be another "appeal to the people" before the Prime Minister asks for his new Peers. If the present Government comes back, the Lords will give way—and there will be no further crisis. *That is the explanation of the hurry over the Insurance Bill.* Meanwhile, great influence is being brought to bear upon the Unionist leaders to let the Parliament Bill go through, but beyond throwing matters over the Coronation by means of a formal Second Reading, they will not budge. There is no intention of passing the Bill in its present form—nor has the King any intention of creating new Peers to force its passage, at any rate, until it has been submitted to the electorate in its final form as amended by the House of Lords. That is the situation to-day. "If you see it in JOHN BULL——" you know the rest!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

For inserting the following advertisement in "The Staffordshire Sentinel": "Boy Wanted at once to FREEZE, *mornings only,"*

REEVES (Confectioner, Stoke)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For reporting a witness in the £6,500 necklace case as stating that Mrs. Cameron "seemed to have a hobble SHIRT *under her coat,"*

THE EVENING TIMES
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For offering at its show a "Special Prize of Pipe and Case, presented by Mr. Hansford, Walcot, TO *the best* DONKEY *in the Show,"*

THE COMMITTEE OF THE LARKHALL HORTICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY (Bath)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following paragraph: "A Pig with Two Legs was born at Dewsbury Moor on Tuesday, in a litter of nine belonging to Mr. Henry Jennison, of Squirrel Hall, Dewsbury Moor. The freak had no back legs, and while it lived (about 24 hours) IT WAS ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROGRAMME,"

THE DEWSBURY & DISTRICT NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that the "Sunderland Model Yacht Club held a race for their 10-TON CUP,"

THE SUNDERLAND DAILY ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "there will be three evenings of music next week, and EIGHT *the following week,"*

THE HULL DAILY NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For heading the report of a recent inquest: "*MOMENTARY *Death in a Barnard Castle Inn,"*

THE TEESDALE MERCURY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that an aviator "first came to the front at the end of last year, when, at the ELEVENTH *hour, he just missed winning the Michelin prize after a splendid* SIX *hours' flight,"*

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For heading the return of Continental racing in its issue of May 29th, "Paris AUTUMN *Meeting,"*

THE SPORTSMAN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For issuing a cloak-room ticket, stating that the Management "will not hold itself responsible for Loss or Damage unless the Loss or Damage is reported AT THE TIME THE ARTICLES ARE RETURNED TO OWNER,"

THE PROPRIETORS OF THE LYCEUM THEATRE
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in an article on "Guarding the Favourite," that "Every night Merritt, the head lad, has slept with one EAR *open,"*

THE EVENING TELEGRAPH & POST (Dundee)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a person who suffered a serious accident while motoring "is not expected to live . . . . it is NOT *thought that his injuries will prove* FATAL,"

THE MORNING LEADER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a dramatic criticism that "Miss Steer was ONLY *supported by J. H. Irvine and a capable all-round company,"*

THE MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

THE TRAFFIC IN "UNWANTED" CHILDREN.

LIGHT ON THE WILESMITH CASE.

By Our Special Commissioner.

It will be remembered that during the trial of Mrs. Wilesmith for the ill-treatment of Florence Pastorfield no mention was made of the institution from which, or the person from whom, this child was received.

(Before proceeding with the story, let me state that the child who was so brutally treated by those who are now undergoing imprisonment has fully recovered, and is now comfortably settled in a home under proper supervision.)

The History of Florence Pastorfield.

A little over thirteen years ago a parlour-maid, named Constance Pastorfield, gave birth to a child. That child was Florence. The mother was not married, and found herself in a very difficult position. The first thing requisite was to get rid of the child, for the mother had not only to earn her own living, but that of the infant also. As there was no public institution to which she could turn, except the workhouse, she looked out for a "Home" where she could place it.

By some means she got in touch with Mrs. Janet Wallis, of "Roseneath," South Croydon, the founder and directress of what is known as the "Haven for Homeless Little Ones," whose registered address is 18, Railway Approach, London Bridge.

There seems to have been no room in the "Haven" for Florence, so the mother was referred by Mrs. Wallis to a Mrs. Gymer, at Walthamstow. Eventually a bargain was struck, the mother undertaking to pay 5s. a week, and the child was handed over to its new foster-mother, while the parent returned to work.

The mother's payments were regularly made for a number of years. When the registration of nurse-children became law, Florence was transferred from Mrs. Gymer to a Mrs. Wright, at Croydon, and subsequently to a Mrs. Cameron. Finding the struggle for existence very keen, Constance intimated to foster-mother number three that all she could afford to pay in the future was four, instead of five, shillings a week. Then the trouble commenced. A few weeks later Constance disappeared altogether. For a few weeks Mrs. Wallis paid the nurse-charge out of the funds of the "Home"—of which more anon.

Here we come in touch with Mrs. Wilesmith. When Mrs. Wallis has a child she wishes to get adopted she usually advertises in the *Christian*, and this is the only explanation the founder of the "Haven" gives of how she first became acquainted with Mrs. Wilesmith. Be that as it may, they did get in touch with each other, and eventually Florence was handed over by Mrs. Cameron.

I am informed that excellent references were produced before the little mite was transferred, and that many letters were subsequently received from the child saying she was happy and such like. I have seen these letters, and judge them to be dictated. Not content with this, the "Home" sent down a Mr. Beasley to see the child in September last—a few months before Mrs. Wilesmith's arrest. This gentleman acts as visiting inspector and general officer to hunt up missing fathers. Beasley is an ex-Salvation Army "Major." I have seen his report of his visit to the child-victim; it is to the effect that she was happy and quite well. The officer also states that although he offered to bring the child back to Croydon, she preferred to remain with her foster-mother. What I did not like about this report was the offer to bring the child away. I should have thought he would have seen ample reason why the child should remain no longer with Mrs. Wilesmith. Be that as it may, Beasley was not called upon to give evidence, though he was in Court.

"The Haven of Rest for Homeless Little Ones."

This "Home" was founded by Mrs. Wallis some 16 years ago. She is now the Hon. Directress. The Vice-Presidents are for the most part priests and parsons. One name, however, stands out boldly from the rest; it is that of Sir Robert Anderson, K.C.B. As Sir Robert was formerly Chief of our Criminal Investigation Department, it goes without saying that he is an asset; his name inspires confidence, and brings in subscriptions.

Before me I have the latest balance-sheet, and I find that the public in 1910 subscribed more than £2,000, while the mothers of children made payments amounting to £1,136. Living in the "Home" are 80 children, and there are close upon 100 boarded out. By a simple calculation, I gather that the cost of maintenance of a child in the "Home" is 15s. a week, while the foster-mother of a boarded-out child is paid at the rate of 5s. a week. Why this difference? Can it be that the "Home" is kept as a sort of a show to bring in subscriptions? To be perfectly just, I must admit that the conditions there are above the average of a well-to-do artisan's home. I suggest that the pick of the children are kept in the "Home."

Well-intentioned people are not always wise, and that they are sometimes unjust has frequently been proved. Twelve months ago Mrs. Wallis was fined the maximum penalty for neglecting, ill-treating, and exposing a child. Had she been a poor, ignorant woman my sympathies might have been on her side. There is no excuse whatever for the founder of this "Haven"; she is a cultured woman, and she was defended by eminent counsel, one of whom was a K.C. During this trial—which lasted nine days—Mrs. Wallis admitted that in addition to receiving payments from the mothers of children, she sometimes received money from the father. When pressed by counsel for the prosecution, she admitted that she had received as much as £120 from the father of one illegitimate child.

"What is your mode of procedure with a putative father?" I asked. Here is Mrs. Wallis's reply: "If possible he is traced and faced with his responsibility, and made to enter into an agreement with the mother to contribute towards the support of her child. If he refuses, and there is proof of paternity, we always advise the mother to apply for an order of the Court. We also, if the mother wishes, agree to collect the payments from the father due under the agreement or order, and remit the amounts to the child's mother."

Now I say that tactics of this kind are open to very grave abuse. The Salvation Army does it, and I believe Beasley, when its officer, carried out the work for a number of years. Cases of men being visited by the "Army" *at their places of employment* were brought to my notice. Little imagination is required to see that a man threatened with exposure, and, possibly, the loss of his situation, will pay sooner than have an inspector of a "Home for Bastards" continually visiting him. The law provides proper measures for dealing with putative fathers, and I state, without the slightest hesitation, that the "Home's" method is highly reprehensible.

Since the "Home" opened it has dealt with over 1,500 illegitimate children! Next week I propose going into a few details regarding their distribution.

THE HAIRY BUGBEAR.

AN IMPUDENT LETTER FROM A CHARLATAN.

Here is the experience of a lady who was inquisitive about a depilatory, said to make "superfluous hair disappear like magic."

First she received circulars from Roman Solvene, Ltd., 85, Great Portland Street, and then a threatening letter which might have enticed her to part with her money if she had been less strong-minded.

A certain R. K. Firmin wrote that he really could not understand why he had not received a reply to his letter, especially as his manager, Mr. Jaures, had also written to her without any result. "As these letters have not been returned by the Post Office, I conclude they must have reached their destination. I believe you are suffering from that unpleasant disfigurement, superfluous hair. In my last letter I made you a tempting offer, reducing my price to 15s. 6d., because I thought perhaps the amount I asked in the first place was more than you could afford. I also explained how fully you are protected by my absolute and unconditional guarantee. Could I possibly make you this guarantee if I was not absolutely confident as to its efficacy and certainty to remedy this disfigurement? I am positive it is your desire to be free of the anxiety of watching these tiny hairs growing and creeping along the surface of the skin, getting larger, longer and thicker every day until the whole face and arms are so completely disfigured that evening dress or short-sleeved blouses are no longer within your reach, because you have to cover up your shoulders to hide that dark streak on them. I am putting your name on the pad in front of me, so that I may know I shall receive a letter from you in a few days' time."

It must be very annoying to ladies to receive such impudent menaces from foreign quacks, with insults about their personal appearance, visions of further horrors and taunts of poverty. We should not be surprised if a husband or brother called round at the office one day with a big stick. But the victims are themselves chiefly to blame, for if they would only ignore the appeals of such charlatans their occupation would soon be gone.

OFFENSIVE OFFICIALS AT OXFORD.

THE UNDERGRADUATE'S COMPLAINT.

We receive numerous complaints from undergraduates about the absurd and unfair behaviour of the Proctors. Recourse is had to the meanest devices of *espionage*, and evil conclusions are jumped at without any plausible pretext. We hear, for instance, of a young man who was followed about for three hours and chased back to his college for addressing a girl in a perfectly harmless fashion, and no attempt seems to have been made to find out first whether she had a grievance or was no better than she should be.

This reminds us of the story of a well-known statesman who was stopped by the Proctors during his student days at Cambridge and charged with a similar offence. He explained quite blandly that the lady was his sister. The Proctor grew purple in the face and taxed him with monstrous impudence, on the ground that she was one of the most notorious women in the town. "Do you think, sir," came the answer, in a still small voice, "that it is gentlemanly on your part to reproach me with that?"

The Oxford Proctors seem to be regular killjoys in respect of the most innocent enjoyment. When an ordinary supper-party is in progress, they hang about outside for hours, in the hope of catching someone without cap and gown. Not long ago a Proctor actually entered a private residence where a dance was being held, and, walking into the ballroom with his bulldogs, who did not even remove their hats, addressed the hostess in a peremptory way, and demanded a list of her guests. On another occasion he entered the rooms of a young man, who was entertaining some relatives, and called him aside to inquire as to the character of the "women" who were his guests.

No doubt there must be discipline at a university, but we should have thought that manners and morals might be inculcated with more effect if the representatives of authority began by setting an example of behaviour.

STRAINING AT A GNAT.

THE CROYDON POLICE AND MOTORS.

We have received the following letter from Messrs. Charles Letts and Co., of Southwark Bridge Buildings:—

> A few days ago one of our representatives was paying business calls in Croydon; he was on one of our cars in charge of a chauffeur, and whilst paying a call in George Street, Croydon, the car remained standing some twenty minutes. A policeman ordered the chauffeur to move, and our man explained that his master was paying a call and enquired where he might stop; to this the policeman replied that he could stop nowhere, so the chauffeur immediately started the car and went away, returning in about five minutes. He waited for a further short period, and was then instructed by our representative to wait round the corner, in a street where no possible obstruction could be caused, and whilst in this position the same policeman came up to him and asked for his licence, and said he would summons him for obstruction and refusing to move, threatening to take the chauffeur to the station if he stopped where he was.
>
> The summons arrived and the case was heard at Croydon. We sent our representative down to vouch for the facts as here stated, and a nominal fine of 2s. 6d. was imposed.

The chauffeur seems to have suffered great injustice.

"A NEW TEA TRICK."

THE GLOBE TEA CO. LAUGH TOO SOON.

There was a misprint in our recent paragraph under this heading—Club Tea Co. should have read Globe Tea Co., Market Place, Pontefract. We are informed that the tricksters are laughing up their sleeves at our poor printer. Well, now they can laugh at something else. Here is a letter from a Manchester reader:—

> You refer to the Club Tea Co., Pontefract. Might I point out an error? It is the Globe Tea Co., which has about 20 branches to my knowledge, and the firm is Wallace's, Ltd. I am enclosing one of the bills from their Barnsley branch, and, I might add, they are laughing up their sleeves because you published the wrong name. But if you mention it again in your columns please don't say anything about your having a bill about the Barnsley.

We won't.

LETTERS WE HOPE TO RECEIVE.

To the Editor of JOHN BULL.

DEAR FRIEND,—In view of the interest you have manifested in my proceedings from time to time, I think it only right and proper that you should be the first to be informed of my intention to withdraw from political life. I had hoped to find in the House of Commons a field ripe unto the harvest, and had intended to bring to my spiritual labours therein the same energy and enthusiasm that marked my election campaign in the Skipton division of Yorkshire last December. I had hoped that I might be the poor and humble instrument of a wonderful revival in the House of Commons, to which end I have assiduously haunted the Bread and Milk Room. But, alas! although I dealt faithfully with such Members as I came in contact with, I found them deaf and irresponsive to the promptings of the Spirit; and as we are enjoined in the Scriptures to shun the company of the wicked, and to turn from them that walk in darkness, I have decided, after much wrestling (for does it not mean the refusing of £400 a year?) to apply for the Chiltern Hundreds, and hope in a few days' time to return again to my beloved Sunday School in Skipton.

Believe me, dear friend,

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM CLOUGH.

P.S.—God bless you.

(And P.P.S.—God bless *you*! JOHN BULL.)

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

A PRINCE OF KILLJOYS.

LAUGHABLE IGNORANCE IN THE "DAILY NEWS."

When killjoys start denouncing amusements about which they know nothing, honest men sometimes come in for a bit of fun. Thus the *Daily News* has been delighting a ribald world by an exquisite article on Machaquito, by Lanwarne Hawkins.

Machaquito we know as one of the most dexterous and courageous bull-fighters of the age, but Lanwarne Hawkins is a gentleman whose acquaintance has been too long denied to us. As he dates his screed from Madrid, he has presumably been within measurable distance of a bull-fight, but he carefully abstains from imperilling his immortal soul by asserting that he has ever seen one. However, that does not prevent him from posing as an expert on the subject.

He begins by an onslaught upon the great artist's name and appearance. He says Machaquito ought really to be called Alfred Wilkins, which at least sounds more Christian than Lanwarne and is not precisely overshadowed by the aristocracy of Hawkins. "To my prejudiced foreign vision he appears like an exceedingly ill-favoured organ-grinder." As even Mr. Cunninghame-Graham, a vehement detractor of bull-fights, describes him as "a remarkably graceful and handsome young man, with a look of refinement about him," it was perhaps as well that 'Awkins admitted prejudice in his Cockney vision.

But let us cut the cackle and come to the bull-ring. Our self-constituted instructor in foreign sports makes a point of telling us that Machaquito is honoured and favoured because he "can inflict a greater variety of subtle, ingenious tortures on living animals than probably any other man in the whole of proud and chivalrous Spain. He can spin out its death agonies into a thousand interesting and amusing phases, he can cause it to die of exhaustion, loss of blood, or in any other of the delightfully exciting and stimulating fashions which his own whim or the pleasure of his patrons may suggest or inspire."

It is indeed fortunate that Lanwarne never allowed the dust of a bull-ring to come betwixt the wind and his nobility. Otherwise we should have lost this priceless gem, which deserves to be painted in letters of gold on the portals of every Little Bethel as an encouragement to other killjoys to parade their mendacious ignorance.

In case our readers have not had an opportunity of beholding the marvellous spectacle of a Spanish corrida, we may point out that there is not the smallest shadow of a fraction of a grain of truth in the whole of this fantastic narrative. The business of an espada like Machaquito is to despatch a bull with one clean stroke of his sword between the shoulder-blades. All his reputation depends upon his neatness in accomplishing this task. If he failed once, there would be a murmur of surprise; if he failed often he would be condemned as a clumsy bungler, and probably be hooted out of the ring. No one would want to employ him again. His occupation would be gone.

So far from long-drawn agonies affording pleasure to the spectators, they would soon rouse them to such a pitch of indignation that there would not be one seat left unbroken, and the organisers of the performance would thank their stars if they escaped with their lives. Or rather, such an incident is so incredible that, if it ever occurred, the people would be too dumbfounded to protest, and would very naturally conclude that Machaquito had suddenly become a raving lunatic.

We are not writing this in defence of bull-fighting. We admit that it is a cruel sport, though in common fairness we are bound to say that it brings out astounding pluck and dexterity and provides a very pompous spectacle. But the writer in the *Daily News* is not condemning it for the cruelty to the bull or the horses—only, like the old Puritan censors of bear-baiting, because it happens to give pleasure to spectators. Even as a killjoy he will do well to understand that he will persuade no one unless he first condescends to make himself acquainted with elementary facts.

He might just as well run down juggling and tell us that it is a cruel waste of time for a juggler to throw plates and knives in the air and deliberately refrain from catching them every time. Or, if he wanted to discourage the brutality of football, it might be imprudent on his part to insist upon his theory that victory is secured by the side which kicks the greatest number of shins.

MASTERMAN, THE WHITEWASHER, AGAIN!

WEST HAM GUARDIANS AND A BOY EMIGRANT.

That Mr. Masterman still prefers the vocation of whitewasher to the judicial minister of state cannot be denied after perusal of the following case—coming close as it does on the Akbar miscarriage of justice. The West Ham Board of Guardians had in its charge a lad, whom in April, 1908, they sent to the Devon and Exeter Industrial School. In March last a relative of the lad, a fairly well-to-do farmer in Australia, wrote to the Guardians asking that he might be allowed to come out there. After full enquiries, the Guardians agreed to the proposal, and voted a sum of £5 for an outfit. Before sailing, the boy was given permission to spend a week with a relative at East Ham. The lad was brought to London by an officer of the school, and was met at the station by his relative. The £5 outfit proved a revelation. With the exception of the clothes the lad was wearing, not a single article was new. There was an old suit much too large; a pair of boots also too big; some second-hand collars; a couple of pairs of darned socks, and a few handkerchiefs. The whole lot could have been purchased in Petticoat Lane for 5s.

Whatever may have been the character of the Guardians in West Ham in the past, it is obvious that they intend to get value for the ratepayers' money now. On the matter being brought to their notice one of their number was deputed to view the "relics of old decency." The visiting Guardian, finding there had been a swindle, brought the lad and his outfit up before the next meeting of the Board, which after inspection impounded the clothes and ordered a new outfit.

While before the Guardians, the lad gave some interesting details of his life while in the school. He stated that the boys frequently acted as caddies to gentlemen playing golf. This should be interesting to the Home Secretary. Perhaps if he will make enquiries himself, and not leave it to "the stained glass window" saint, he may be able to find out that the cast-off outfit was obtained from one of the golf players—then he might also ascertain the hours these lads worked as caddies, the amount of wages they were paid, and who received the money.

But to resume our story. The Guardians then asked the Home Office to receive a deputation. Eventually Mr. Masterman and some permanent officials met these gentlemen and heard their complaint.

The Guardians were subsequently informed by letter from the Home Office that the cost of the impounded outfit was £2 10s., and not £5, and that the difference had been retained by the Industrial School authorities *because they had to pay the lad's passage*. Now, we put it to Mr. Masterman that this is a gross untruth. *The uncle of the lad paid the passage.*

Perhaps the Under-Secretary will drop his whitewash brush and give the Guardians a clear account of the affair.

PRUDENTIAL SUICIDES.

Although in our issue of April 29th we published a long list of names of Prudential agents who had committed suicide, it was by no means complete. A reader sends us a cutting from the *Express and Echo* (Exeter), of June 14th, 1906, containing an account of an inquest upon the body of Charles Riley, of Fore Street, Newton Abbot, who was found on Paignton beach. He had acted as insurance agent for the Prudential Company at Kingsteignton, and one of his last acts was to write a letter to his wife stating that "the insurance work was driving him mad."

"JOHN BULL" ROYAL PROGRESS STAND.

UNIQUE POSITION.

As already announced, we are erecting a magnificent Stand, just opposite St. Mary-le-Strand Church, commanding a unique view of the Procession on the 23rd June, and seats are now being allotted to those fortunate persons who secured the right to them through the "John Bull" Coronation Syndicate. One or two holders are, however, desirous at the last moment of disposing of their tickets, and we should be glad to hear from any reader who would like a good seat at the relatively nominal price of two guineas. Applications must, however, reach us not later than Monday next June 12th

IS THE SMALL TRADER DOOMED?

THE MULTIPLE-SHOP OCTOPUS.

BY W. HURRAN.

The Press has been full lately of the bad effects of the Trusts of America, and recently judgments have been obtained in the Courts dissolving the Standard Oil Company and the Tobacco Trust, while many other actions are pending. But the small traders of this country are faced with an even greater menace to their existence than that created in America by these huge combines.

THE PROVISION TRADE.

The grocery and provision trade is, perhaps, the most affected, but in a greater or less degree injury has been done to practically all trades. During the last few years companies with immense capitals have entered into competition with the retailer, opening thousands of branches in all parts of the country, in a large number of cases to the ruin of the individual trader who, by years of hard work has built up a thriving business; and very often the methods adopted to achieve their purpose have been open to grave criticism.

THE TRADE WAKES UP.

The grocers have at last realised the seriousness of the position, and at their trade meetings have passed resolutions denouncing the system, and urging upon Parliament the necessity of taking action in the matter. As was pointed out by speaker after speaker, the man who owns one shop is usually there for the purpose of earning a living, and takes an interest in the municipal and social life of the district, while the profit he makes is spent there. With the company shop the personal element is entirely absent, and it is simply a machine to grind out dividends for shareholders who, in the majority of cases, have no local interests whatever.

WHOLESALERS WHO TRADE AS RETAILERS.

But no one seems to have touched upon what, to my mind, is very bad policy, and that is to what extent they themselves have helped the growth of this movement. All of these multiple-shop companies supply retailers with goods, one of the largest employing some 3,000 hands in its wholesale business, and trading under another name in hundreds of retail shops. Here, without doubt, lies a very serious danger to the retailer, for by supporting this class of wholesaler, he is helping to find capital for the opening of more retail shops, besides placing the knowledge of his turnover at their disposal.

THE MODUS OPERANDI.

The manner of starting a new branch varies, some companies having inspectors, who are always on the look-out for openings. Here is a typical case: A friend of mine had, after some twenty years' hard work, built up a very successful business. A shop a few doors from his becoming empty, a multiple-shop company took possession, and by methods which are only possible to people with vast capital, compelled him, and within a few months, to hand over his business to them. With the few pounds remaining, he has left the country to start life afresh. And this case could be multiplied a hundredfold.

WAGE SLAVES.

The lot of the employees is very unsatisfactory, the majority of these companies refusing to employ a man who has been in the service of their rivals, no matter why he left his previous situation. They are discharged on the merest pretext, as the continuous advertising amply proves, and their wages compare unfavourably with those paid by the small trader. One of the managers recently remarked that he did not think it advisable to keep a man more than six months, as by that time they had exhausted all his ideas. Pick his brain and throw him on the human scrap-heap!

THE REMEDY.

I have indicated above one method by which the single trader could, in some measure at least, help himself—by steadily refusing to do any business with any firm which, whilst taking his orders, competes against him for his retail trade. But a far more effective method would be for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to impose a tax on multiple-shop trading, as is done in Germany. This would bring a substantial amount to the revenue, and tend to check what would be nothing short of a national disaster—the extinction of the small trader.

A SENSIBLE SUGGESTION.

A NEW PLEA FOR EMIGRATION.

A correspondent has sent us a long letter which we were at first inclined to throw into the waste paper basket, but which may perhaps afford food for thought. He begins by telling us that after long years of observing and thinking, with Herbert Spencer, Darwin, Mill, and "most of the great thinkers" as his "constant fireside friends," he has found the solution of the unemployed problem.

We were not even impressed when he told us "without any great meditating" that emigration was his remedy. In fact, he was almost prophetic when he wrote: "I can see you shaking your head, as if a *man* goes to Canada or New Zealand he is likely to be still out of work."

However, we accepted his invitation to have patience and hear him out. "It is the vast ramifications of practical details that want to be successfully dealt with. So I would not be such a fool as to send any one man abroad to seek work. I have been myself, and, though a highly skilled workman, have walked the streets of the cities of Australia and failed to get employment, because I was out of place in nature. But to send out complete small communities in the proper way is a totally different matter. What do you think of this? The Boers of South Africa trekked to the Transvaal in parties, and none were out of work. Brigham Young took a whole community to the wilds of America and none were out of work. Moses did the same. Americans, in a rough way, solve the problem in a similar manner; small parties go off together and found towns. One man can do nothing by himself; he is only a savage—and a very bad savage at that.

"I will give you a problem. Think of a small town or village and the country immediately surrounding it—a town that has no special industry, like, say, Faringdon, in Berkshire, and ask yourself how do these people live, buried away in the heart of the country? Suppose you were a giant and lifted the town and surrounding country up bodily, and put it down again in Australia; it would make no difference, they would go on living as before. Scatter the inhabitants of that small town to the four winds, send every man, woman and child to a different place, and they would all be out of work, and the children would die. In other words, they live off each other, as human beings have done from time immemorial."

This sounds reasonable and might be worth thinking out.

"MISS TOLLEMACHE."

A CORRECTION.

In our issue of May 13th we referred to the treatment of her servants by Miss Tollemache, of Garden Lawns, Aldbourne, Hassocks, near Brighton. We instanced the case of a man named Randall, who was summarily dismissed by Miss Tollemache. We said that some time ago Miss Tollemache was summoned by a maidservant for assault and fined ten shillings and costs, and we added that Miss Tollemache "appears to be notorious on the countryside for the harsh way in which she treats her dependents," adding that we drew attention to the matter "in the hope that the paragraph may be seen by servants on the look-out for employment, and may prevent them from accepting a situation from this very strange employer."

Miss Tollemache resents our criticisms, and denies our allegations of fact. We have made further enquiry into the circumstances, and we find that, in so far as our statement refers to the summons for assault, we were misinformed. Our representative was told by many persons in Hassocks and the neighbourhood that there had been such a conviction, and it is not denied that some years ago Miss Tollemache was summoned for assault, but we are assured by the lady's solicitor that the case was stopped by the Bench and the summons, of course, dismissed. We regret that we were misled on that point.

LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.

A Real Sporting Pictorial.
Every Wednesday. One Penny

COLONEL MORGAN'S APPOINTMENT.

THE INNER HISTORY OF IT.

A good deal has been said during the last few days, in Parliament and out of it, about the action of the Government in creating the post of Messing Adviser and offering it to Colonel Morgan. The objection taken to the appointment is that Colonel Morgan was invited to retire from the Army as the result of certain findings of the Butler and Farwell Commissions, and that his reinstatement in the Service was unprecedented and indefensible. As the mouthpiece of the Government, Colonel Seely defends the appointment, and Lord Robson has written a letter to say that he is satisfied from the facts that came before him in his capacity as Attorney-General that Colonel Morgan did nothing in South Africa inconsistent with his duty.

It is not for us to judge between the very explicit findings of the Royal Commissions and the present official view of Colonel Morgan's conduct, although we may say in passing that the Government's reiterated statement that Colonel Morgan is not only the best, but the only officer fit to perform the duties of Messing Adviser is too absurd to need refutation. What we desire to deal with here is what is said to be the real reason for the appointment of Colonel Morgan. It may not be the true reason, but it comes to us with such circumstantiality that we consider it our duty to make it public.

Our information is that the office of Messing Adviser was created and offered to Colonel Morgan because the Government were under obligation to him to give him an appointment that would restore his lost status. It will be remembered that in 1909 the Imperial Cold Storage Company sued the Government for a very large sum, on the ground of non-completion of a contract for the supply of meat to the Army in South Africa. Colonel Morgan's evidence was of great importance, and if the Government were to win it was very desirabla that he should give evidence in its support. Accordingly, it is said that the most important of the War Offices permanent officials, and who it so happens had served also in the Army Service Corps at Woolwich with Colonel Morgan, saw Colonel Morgan in London. The negotiations at that time led to nothing, and it was only on the eve of the trial that Morgan was persuaded to give the evidence indispensable for the purposes of the Government, and which was in his possession alone. It must be clearly understood that we are not insinuating that Colonel Morgan was asked to give untrue evidence. We mean no more than we say, and there was nothing, so far as we know, blameworthy in the relations of the Government and Colonel Morgan in this matter. Colonel Morgan's evidence had much to do with the verdict given for the Government. Prior to his evidence, he was given to understand—if our information is correct—that as a reward he would be given a military appointment. That was two years ago, and Colonel Morgan has not failed to remind the Government of their undertaking, and to press for its fulfilment.

It may be said that if the Government were under this indebtedness to Colonel Morgan they would offer him an appointment worth more than £300 a year. But the explanation is simple. Colonel Morgan was anxious not for an office of great monetary value, but for an appointment that would socially rehabilitate him as an officer. So anxious was he on this head that he endeavoured to obtain a commission as Lieut.-Colonel in the Army Service Corps branch of the Territorial forces, but the head of the Department at the War Office refused to submit his name to the Army Council. Colonel Morgan then tried for another military appointment, and failed, and in despair of getting anything suitable for him, the War Office created, upon Colonel Morgan's own suggestion, the appointment of Messing Adviser, and offered it to him. It is said that Lord Haldane was not a party to the promise made by the high permanent official in the War Office to Colonel Morgan when the Army Council wanted his evidence, but he was acquainted with it before the trial of the action.

Such are the facts as we have heard them. Will Lord Haldane or Colonel Seely deny them?

CORONATION HYMN.—Everyone requiring an inspiriting Empire Hymn for the Coronation, should get "Our God, Our Country, and Our King"—words by Alfred Edmonds and music by James Glover—published at the GENTLEWOMAN offices at the popular price of 1d.

WHO ARE THE BLASPHEMERS?

"FROM RACECOURSE TO CROSS. 1,000 TO 1 AGAINST. LONG ODDS, AND YET CHRIST WON."

BY E. M. APPLETON.

Most of the readers of this paper will remember the bellow which greeted Mr. Bradlaugh's pronouncements on the subject of theology; everybody remembers how Mr. Blatchford's articles on the same subject were received. "Infidel," "Unbeliever," "Blasphemer," were amongst the mildest epithets hurled at the heads of these two transgressors. Yet I would wager a second-best pair of trousers against a copy of *Good Words*, that no such piece of blasphemous bad taste as the above is to be found in the works of all the unbelievers from Tom Paine to Mr. McCabe.

The source? Well, the source is a leaflet, issued by the Stirling Tract Enterprise, bearing the cheery title of *The Gospel Trumpet*. I am not a regular subscriber to that journal, but, like Malvolio, I had this piece of greatness thrust upon me. The article under our attention is entitled "From Racecourse to Cross," and is anonymous. The hero of the story is one "Teddy." It is a highly interesting story, as it deals with the home life of that highly interesting individual, the bookmaker, or, as the author prefers to call him, "a betting shark."

We are told that "Teddy presented a fine appearance at the races. His colours were flying from his hat, and of course, he knew all the winners, for from his boyhood he had been trained in the art." I like that phrase "of course." What puzzles me is to know what he was doing making a book if he knew all the winners.

Teddy's father wanted a handy lad, and took him at an early age into the business. Thus Teddy commenced his career, and later on went into partnership with the dear old dad as clerk. The dear old dad, we learn, "lived on other men's earnings, or other men's follies, just as sharks live solely by devouring their prey. His father was a pattern, perhaps otherwise? Yes, alas! a pattern to follow, if to make home a Hell is desirable." Here the historian seems to have missed a point; he should have included that useful little phrase made so deservedly popular by Mr. Pelissier: "Yes, I don't think!"

Teddy used to make money at the game, and that is one of the reasons why the writer is so cross with him. Now, the piece of information which follows should be worth a fortune to an intending bookmaker, for it tells us how Teddy did the trick.

"He could get odds after a race was run, when he knew the winners, could get later information than the odds given in newspapers, play cards, and put one or two up his sleeve."

There you have it. A concise and clear guide to the turf. The mother seems to have been the only languid member of this really lively family. "It is true she (the mother) was a Church-goer, and had been to a Sunday School," but, not much the better for that, suggests our author. The influence of the Church and Sunday School did not prevent the lady's allowing "father" to christen his baby girls after racehorses. This, I should imagine, would lend a novelty to the home which is not to be found in most suburban families. It also tempts one to write a second "Cottar's Saturday Night":

How would this do for a beginning?

"Go fetch the *Sportsman*, Kaffir Chief."
The patient child procures the leaf.
Bachelor's Button garments mends,
Whilst Saucy Sally supper tends.
The gramophone, they now draw near,
Whilst Careful Girl goes for the beer.

Alas, I feel the brain-strain would be too much!

Finally, to come to the moral, the inevitable happens. The result is that Teddy now makes a living by preaching in the very same public-houses in which he used to drink. Beautiful, isn't it!

I *should* like to know Teddy's address. It is a pity that so much accumulated knowledge should for ever be lost to the world. A man who "knew all the winners because he had been trained to it," is not a man to lose sight of.

I am rather inclined to think "there ain't no sich person."

Whether there is, or whether there ain't, it is high time the evangelical bodies put a stop to the issue of such precious pieces of blasphemy as adorn *The Gospel Trumpet*.

THE LAW GUARANTEE, TRUST AND ACCIDENT SOCIETY.

A SHAREHOLDER'S LETTER TO MR. BUXTON.

Mr. Arthur Lawton, who was a large shareholder, has addressed the following letter to the President of the Board of Trade :—

In amplification and support of the efforts that are being made to bring about the much-needed public investigation into the affairs of this Society, which by its collapse has involved the shareholders in a loss of £2,250,000, I enclose for your perusal a copy of a letter from Mr. S. Bircham, a member of the Committee appointed by the shareholders, in which you will see that the Committee (according to Mr. Bircham) has reported that public enquiry is desirable. Mr. Bircham's letter was received by me in January last, and I recently sent it to the *Pall Mall Gazette* for publication.

I also have the honour to enclose a cutting from JOHN BULL dealing with actual cases brought out at the trial of the action Ronald *v.* JOHN BULL, in which the jury found for the defendants.

I have also to direct your attention to the evidence, at the said trial, of Mr. Maples (a late director of the Law Guarantee Society), who stated that the directors of that Society courted public investigation.

The Lord Chief Justice has also stated, more than once, that he is in favour of "complete investigation."

The awful results to shareholders, the injury done to commercial morality, and, therefore, to the public interest, by this failure are of such a character as to demand exhaustive examination at the hands of your Department. All the recent failures—Charing Cross Bank, Measures, Ltd., Law Car Insurance Co.—pale into insignificance compared with the losses of the shareholders and creditors of the Law Guarantee Society, and no mere legal technicalities should be allowed to stand in the way of a thorough overhauling, which is urgently necessary in the interest of—

(*a*) The Directors.
(*b*) The Shareholders.
(*c*) The Creditors.
(*d*) The Public Interest.
(*e*) The Interests of Truth and Justice.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
ARTHUR LAWTON.

(Holder of 750 Ordinary shares in Law Guarantee, Trust and Accident Society.)

The Right Honourable
The President of the Board of Trade,
Board of Trade,
Whitehall, S.W.

HOSPITALS AND CORONATION STANDS.

A WORD WITH THE WESTMINSTER.

Having been informed that patients were being discharged from the Westminster Hospital in order to make room for Coronation seat-holders, who had paid close upon £14,000 for accommodation, we called upon the Secretary with a view of ascertaining if our information was correct. Our representative had great difficulty in finding the well-known site. Every building in the vicinity, including Westminster Abbey, was covered in timber. After a good deal of skirmishing, he came across the familiar collection-box, let into the Hospital wall. It was the only part of the building visible. A five minutes' search revealed the door, and eventually the Secretary was button-holed. He flatly denied the statement made to us, but added, "What we are doing is to decline to take in any more patients unless they are very urgent, such as accidents."

The Coronation will soon be over and done with, when the Hospital will once more be sending round the hat! We say no more.

FOR AN ARTICLE ON
"SHOULD UNMARRIED WOMEN BE CALLED 'MRS.'"?
See this week's "MRS. BULL."

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXLV.

A NAVAL "CAST-OFF."

The following paragraph appeared in our "World, Flesh and Devil" notes of March 18th last :—

> Alfred Searle, a half-starved-looking man, of Shepherd's Bush, lost his work, and not being able to get any more, notwithstanding all his efforts, found himself, his wife, and two children presently without food and almost without clothes. There was some hired furniture in the house, and, in his desperation, Searle pawned it. Detective Kimber went to serve the summons on him, and there are times when even detectives, like the rest of us, have their feelings. Kimber found the man's wife and children in the last stages of destitution, and out of his own pocket provided them with food and clothes. The West London magistrate first fined Searle 20s. or a month, then changed his mind, and reduced the penalty to 10s., with 2s. costs. Of course, a man has no legal right to do a legal wrong because his wife and family are starving, but punishment in this case would have been a penny, including costs. As Searle must have been as little able to find 12s. as 20s., we are wondering whether he is doing his month. We trust not; and, as there was a Detective Kimber about, we should think not.

We have been keeping our eye on Searle, and as he cannot obtain work, and indeed is being driven to desperation, we place his case before our readers. Searle served sixteen years in the Navy as a stoker, and is in possession of a character marked "Very Good." He is a married man with two children, ages 3 years and 1½ years. His wife and children are living in one room. The man himself is at work at the Hollesley Bay Labour Colony. What few shillings he gets as wages there, he sends home to his wife. But what a life! Surely a man who has served his country in a "hell-hole below the water-line" for a matter of sixteen years is deserving of better treatment! Can any of our readers help with work? Any money which may be forthcoming we will forward to his wife.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named :

CXXXIX.—"Two School Boys," 5s.
CXLII.—"Joben," 10s.
CXLIII.—G. H. B., 2s.; "Joben," 10s.; "Deepest Sympathy," 10s.; R. S., 1s.; W. J., 2s. 6d.; W. D., 1s.; "Eastergate," 2s.; "Beer," 2s. 6d.; "Fortuna Deo," 1s.; "Lazy but Generous," 10s.; "Springfield," 1s.
CXLIV.—"Honest Freemason," 5s.

EDINBURGH ROYAL INFIRMARY.

With reference to our paragraph concerning the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, which appeared in our issue dated May 13th, and stated that a man in the employment of a large engineering firm in Edinburgh had had his hand badly smashed, and when taken to the Royal Infirmary had to wait five hours before it was properly dressed, the man in question had since made a statement to the effect that he received "every care and attention that was necessary," and speaks in warm terms of his treatment at the Infirmary.

The Treasurer and Clerk of that institution forwards us a copy of the patient's statement. We regret that we were misled.

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

June 13th.—LEO GEORGE CHIOZZA MONEY.

What's in a name? There's much in one like yours,
For Money pleasure, power, and fame insures;
The root of ill, some call it—which is rash,
For much good work can be performed with cash.
All we can wish is that, like money, you
May become sterling Money, and ring true;
That by the test most searching and complete
You may be tried, and found not counterfeit;
And when the Angel Gabriel's trump shall sound,
No dud, but *Ready Money* you'll be found.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?
SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

"NICENESS."

THE LATEST SOCIAL SHIBBOLETH.

Different people have different standards of excellence. Some hold up courage, others thrift, others benevolence, others genius to our admiration. But it has been left to Mr. Ernest Jardine, M.P. for East Somersetshire, to proclaim a new ideal for the aspirations of mankind. He stated, during a discussion on the Osborne Judgment, that it was horrid to hold Trade Union meetings in public-houses and that "*the nicest men do not attend in those places.*" Not possessing marble halls like the Constitutional Club for their political conferences, or an ancient abbey like the honourable Member for their banquets, it is difficult to know where they are to meet if the publicity of a tavern is to be condemned as improper. But let that pass. The point Mr. Jardine has emphasised is that the "nicest" men will not be found mixing with such vulgar crowds. "Nicest!" No wonder a great shout of derision went up from the Labour benches.

It would be interesting to discover precisely what Mr. Jardine means by that miserable little word. It is often applied to tame cats who are skilful in handing round bread and butter, or holding skeins of wool, or providing tickets for theatres, or arranging flowers daintily. They must always be very sleek and well groomed, with the right kind of scent on their handkerchiefs and the right amount of oil on their hair. Gently affected voices, simpering smiles and the careful avoidance of heat or hurry are essential. No wonder that the stalwart sons of toil pricked up their ears at the suggestion of such characteristics for their champions. Perhaps, however, Mr. Jardine would kindly have relaxed his requirements just a tiny little bit for the hardness of their hands and the vicissitudes of their education. His notion of a "nice" working man would no doubt be a Trades Union Secretary who made a point of touching his hat in the lobby, a popular representative with all the instincts of a flunkey, a political opponent who was always ready to subordinate opinions and interests to those of his betters.

It is not nice to express unpopular views in the presence of the owner of an abbey. The least that is due to him is a stained-glass atmosphere, the hushed voices which go with dim religious lights, a zeal for confession and absolution, a holy joy in receiving admonitions on the knee. But "niceness" is apparently not the only requirement. When someone made an ironical suggestion that good looks might also be acceptable, Mr. Jardine jumped at the idea. Indeed, he immediately began to discriminate and, turning upon Mr. Stephen Walsh, a miner's representative, he pointed his moral with more frankness than delicacy by exclaiming, "You are not exactly a picture of beauty. As regards personal appearance you have nothing to swank about."

Apart from the choice of language, which surprised us in the owner of an abbey and a self-constituted judge of "niceness," we do not quite see what precise bearing this invidious distinction had upon the subject before the House. We confess that it had never occurred to us to regard beauty as an indispensable adjunct to political ability or even to "niceness." But since the point has been rashly raised, we have examined the likenesses of these two rival candidates for the apple of Paris, and we are bound to say that for regularity of feature, smoothness of texture and general "niceness" of expression, the Labour man takes the palm. Without venturing to criticise from an artistic point of view, we still hesitate to pronounce with any vehemence of emphasis that everything in the Jardine is lovely. But then we have not been privileged to behold the honourable member parading the aisles of his abbey, clad in a vesture of home-made lace.

THE AKBAR REFORMATORY SCANDAL.

We have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the following further donations to the fund for the benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Adam, who, in consequence of the part they took in exposing the gross cruelties practised at the Reformatory, are now out of employment and experience great difficulty in obtaining fresh situations:—"Sympathy," 4s.; "Mil. Suf.," 1s.; A. J. R. H., £1; C. L. S., 2s.; "South Hackney," 2s. 6d.; "A Bon Droit," 3s.; "Persistent Peruser," 2s. 6d.; H. J. W., 2s. 6d.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

THE RT. HON. A. J. BALFOUR.

By WALTER MOORE.

Mr. Balfour has been so much in the public gaze of late that I felt it incumbent upon me to do him the honour of interviewing him once again.

Owing to the Whitsun recess, I experienced some difficulty in finding him. I searched every aviation ground in the country without avail; I peered through my glasses at each passing air-craft, only to be disappointed; finally, I found him at—but perhaps he would prefer me not to disclose to a curious public exactly where I did find him. Anyhow, it may be taken for granted that it was nowhere to be ashamed of, or I should not have been there myself.

"Well, Arthur," I cried in greeting, "I always did look upon you as a high flyer, but I never thought you would reach the height you attained the other day."

Mr. Balfour blushed. Yes, notwithstanding his 63 years he still retains the charming talent for colouring which distinguished him in his early youth.

"Er—what may you mean?" he asked, with his genial and fascinating smile.

"What else but your daring exploit at Hendon, when you placed yourself and the destinies of the Tory party in the hands of Mr. Grahame-White, and soared to the Empyrean in an aeroplane? How did you like it?"

Mr. Balfour dropped his voice to an impressive whisper.

"It was horrible—horrible!" he hissed.

"But you made out that you had enjoyed it immensely when you landed," I cried with astonishment.

"That was for the ears of the groundlings," explained Mr. Balfour. "Besides, several members of the Government were present. I would not have them think that I lacked nerve, for worlds."

"What were your thoughts when you found yourself soaring over the heads of the admiring crowds?" I asked.

"They were exceedingly painful thoughts," replied Mr. Balfour. "I imagined what it would mean if our machine were to fall upon the people below. I always think first of the people, as, of course, you are aware. I thought to myself, 'Suppose we were to drop on to the head of the Prime Minister! What a blow it would be to him—and to the country!' Of course, it would have meant not only the dissolution of the Prime Minister, but of the Government as well. For a moment the natural unscrupulousness of the party politician mastered me. I was on the point of jogging Mr. Grahame-White's arm, with the idea of precipitating the machine on to the group of Ministers below, when better, more humane feelings prevailed. I realised that I, too, might be injured, if not killed in the descent. And what would the country have done then?"

"Well, two obstacles to the institution of a Business Government would have been removed," I observed, *sotto voce*.

"I was anxious to give the Government a lead," continued Mr. Balfour. "I did not relish the idea of it at all, but I could see that both McKenna and Asquith were funky, so I mastered my own fears, thinking that if I went up the Government dare not show the white feather, and either Asquith or McKenna would be sure to follow, and then—well, you never *can* tell, you know. Accidents will happen on the best regulated aeroplanes. But nothing came off," added Mr. Balfour, with a sigh.

"Are you insured?" I asked.

"Yes, in the Prudential, I am sorry to say," was Mr. Balfour's reply.

"You're all right, provided you are not in the industrial section," I said reassuringly.

"I don't know so much about that," retorted Mr. Balfour. "I am not sure that my policy covers risk by air-craft. I shall not attempt another flight, not even to tempt Lloyd George into the air and to possible destruction, until I have carefully examined my policy."

"I would not trouble to do that if I were you," I advised. "So far as I can see the Prudential Company are in a mood to pay almost any claim just now, until the exposure is over."

"Then I will certainly try to tempt Lloyd George or Winston Churchill into the air," declared Mr. Balfour.

"Take Masterman with you, and jog the pilot's elbow," I suggested.

"*Retro, Satanas!*" cried Mr. Balfour.

I "retro'd."

OH, FOR A BUSINESS POST OFFICE!

WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY IN THE FACTORIES' DEPARTMENT.

To enquire into the general management of the whole of the Post Office would be a big task. On the assumption, however, that as a part is, so is the whole, we propose to deal with one branch of the Department, viz., the Factories. These consist of two establishments, one situated at Holloway and the other at Clerkenwell. The number of "hands" engaged in the two factories is at present about 700, and the total wages about £66,000 per annum. The "hands" are said to be a specially good class of selected mechanics, and it would, therefore, appear that "Management Expenses" should be light. The Post Office Estimates, just issued, disclose the astounding fact that to look after these 700 "hands" no less than 203 officials are engaged, at salaries totalling for the year £28,540. A simple rule in arithmetic shows that for each £1 spent in productive labour, 8s. is spent on supervision. Nor is this all, for many other parts of the Post Office service claim to overlook the factories. The Secretary's Office, the Engineer-in-Chief, the Controller of Stores, etc., all demand their pound of flesh, and add their quota to the total. The result is that, when all the charges are added up, we find for each £1 paid in wages for such productive work as is done, say, on a small lathe, £2 10s. has to be added for "Establishment Charges," while for every sovereign paid to a carpenter using his own tools, another has to be added for supervising staff. No wonder the Factories Department cannot pay its way!

Amongst the staff we find a Controller at £800 per annum, two Superintendents at £550 each, while three Assistant-Superintendents get £450 each, 103 clerks of various grades receive from £450 per annum downwards, while 23 foremen have to be content with £230 each. But why go further? It may be asked, what do these men find to do? Our reply is they work, and work hard and conscientiously. It is not the men who are to blame. It is the rotten system which they are forced to carry out.

Moved by the representations of the "hands" some few months ago, the Postmaster-General announced in the House that he had appointed a Committee of Inquiry to look into the Factories' Department, with a view of increasing its usefulness and efficiency. This announcement brought hope to the hearts of the workmen. When the names of that Committee were published, however, the hopes of the workmen received a death-blow. They were:

Three clerks from various parts of the Post Office, an ex-telegraph clerk, Mr. Ferens, M.P. (a blue manufacturer), Captain Cecil Norton, the Assistant P.M.G. (President).

There's a Committee for you! They have been sitting fifteen months; they are still sitting; they have used reams of foolscap paper, and rumour has it they may sit for fifteen years.

THE HARD CASE OF THE CARPENTERS.

On Friday, May 19th, the Controller arrived at Mount Pleasant, just as the works were closing for the day. A number of carpenters were called into the office and given notice of discharge. They were all men of long service. One of their number had 35 years' to his credit. He asked, "Is this fair treatment after all my years of good service?" His heart was broken; he died on the 28th of the same month. But then he was only a "hand."

Questioned in the House as to these discharges, Mr. Samuel made the usual reply, "Falling off in carpenters' work required by depot," etc. Perhaps the P.M.G. will be surprised to learn that this class of work is urgently required by the Department, that contractors are being pressed for delivery on their contracts, and clerks of the Controller of Stores are chasing round to get quotations for further work.

THE TAKING OVER OF THE TELEPHONES.

The British public has been decidedly uneasy as to the reasons for the huge increase in the cost of the Civil Service, but generally hugs to itself the comforting delusion that, because the Post Office makes a profit, it must be well managed. The fact that, being a huge monopoly, it must pay, is quite lost sight of. Already we have the fact that, headed by the Glasgow Corporation, the commercial world is up in arms against the Post Office handling the telephones, the objection being based on both economy and efficiency.

IS THE NUDE RUDE?

BY "YASHMAK."

It is only with the utmost difficulty that I can bring myself to join in such a discussion. Only the knowledge that I shall remain anonymous gives me the necessary courage to handle the subject of nudity, for even in the solitude of my own chamber I blush at the bare thought of the unclothed.

To my mind, the nude is not only rude, but it is naughty—a far more serious thing. It must be naughty, or I should not blush at the mere thought of it. Indeed, the consciousness that under my clothes I have nothing but bare flesh is to me a perpetual nightmare. To save myself from the constant reminder of the existence of nakedness, I habitually wear gloves—preferably black ones; and my first duty in the morning is to apply to my complexion as much powder as effectually conceals the actual surface of my naked face. Alas! suffering under the infliction of having been born a woman, I cannot call to my aid that masculine veil of modesty called whiskers.

My life, as you may well imagine, guide it as I will, is

ONE CONTINUOUS BLUSH.

I rarely leave my home, which is situated in a remote part of the country, because I can scarcely walk five yards without being reminded of the essential immodesty of nature. I see the cows grazing in the mead. True, they are clothed with hair, but not completely. Their noses are naked, and glisten with natural moisture, and other parts of their anatomy, which I dare not mention for very shame, and which, above all, should be provided with a modest covering, are visible in brazen nudity. It is horrible. Can nothing be done?

It will be obvious to you that a person of my delicate susceptibilities is debarred from perusing the newspapers and illustrated magazines. The pictures which both contain nowadays are a scandal. The corset advertisers are the worst offenders by far. They seem to delight in torturing the modest mind with drawings and photographs of bare arms and bosoms. The manufacturers of infant foods are almost as bad; for what can be more shocking to the pure-minded than pictures of

NAKED BABIES?

It is scandalous. And again, I ask, can nothing be done?

As for pictures and statuary, such things, of course, I never see. But I have heard of them. I understand that in London there are galleries where may be viewed pictures and statues of men and women *absolutely denuded* of clothing, and that on buildings and in the streets are sculptures equally immodest!

For my own part, I declare with pride that the occasion of my weekly bath is a recurring horror. I minimise the effect of viewing my naked flesh by wearing blue glasses whilst bathing, but even with that safeguard it takes me at least an hour to recover from the shock.

You will by this time have arrived at the conclusion that I have never married. Holding the opinions I do, how could I? For I am given to understand that——

[That will do, thank you.—ED.]

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

REGALIA BEARERS.

[*For the Coronation the Bearers of the King's Regalia will include: The Bible, Bishop of Ripon; St. Edward's Crown the Duke of Northumberland; the Orb, the Duke of Somerset; the Sceptre with the Dove, the Duke of Richmond; the Sword of State, the Earl Beauchamp, etc., etc., etc.*]

Majestic titles do the Bearers boast,
In all this state a common man seems lost;
Yet his place is the chief of all—almost,
For he will be allowed to Bear—the cost.

THE POLICE-COURT CAT.

[*For the maintenance of an official police-court cat, the Middlesex County Council have voted a yearly allowance of ten shillings to the caretaker of Willesden Police-Court.*]

While faddists seek to kill the cat,
And Sikes feigns to disdain it,
What mischief is this Council at
In voting to maintain it! RICARDO.

CORONATION P's AND Q's.

HANDY HINTS FOR THE INNOCENT VISITOR.

By Richard Morton.

Seats and Stands.

When a seat-speculator asks extravagant terms for his seats, the price he asks is what he wants, not what he expects to get.

Visitors with an American accent or a Colonial twang should do their business through a London agent, or, if acting in person, should use the deaf-and-dumb language as a method of communication.

Very good people can secure highly moral seats, built on or against Christian churches, thoughtfully placed by Providence on the direct line of route. The spiritual atmosphere around these seats is very pronounced, and the promoters will assure you that the desecration is all done in the sacred cause of charity. Therefore let it be noted, as a new version of an old proverb, that charity seats cover a multitude of churches.

Remember that a window, large enough to accommodate two persons comfortably, becomes uncommonly small when a dozen crowd into it. In such a case it is heart-breaking to be number twelve, unless you have a natural squint and do not mind looking sideways.

If you have a valuable window, it is advisable to be on the premises very early in the morning of the day, or late in the evening of the day before. After the crowd gathers, you may be cut off, and the saddest man in London will be he who has paid five guineas for a seat and finds himself in the highway jammed behind forty rows of people and a regiment of horse-guards.

You can pay as much as thirty guineas for a seat, if you feel foolish enough, or you can get a decent one for a guinea and a half. The wise man will leave his money in the bank and choose to stand in the open air where the thoroughfare is wide and the view is clear.

If you insist on buying a seat, make sure it is really on the line of route and not round the corner. A seat in Piccadilly may seem dear for twenty guineas, but a seat in Gower Street for five shillings is dearer still.

If you decide to see the show from the street, carry a note book and pencil, say "Press" to the policemen.

Coronation Acquaintances.

Every affable man who accosts you in the street, and claims you for an old acquaintance, may not be the friend he says he is.

Good clothes, a large smile, and an outstretched hand are not proofs that the man was at school with your father.

If you believe the stranger who says he has met you before, you will want very badly to meet him again.

The stranger may have hundreds of pounds entrusted to him to give away in charity, but you are not entitled to any of it. And you won't get any of it, either.

If the newly-found old friend wants to buy refreshments, let him, if you are thirsty, but don't let him handle the glass after the barmaid has done with it.

Do not cash his cheque, and do not lend him any money for five minutes or five years. Say you have none, and stick to that, and then it will stick to you.

Should he have a certain tip for a horse-race, do not be beguiled by his stable information. Do not back the horse yourself, nor let him back it for you, even though his friends in the know have bribed the jockey to win and the horse as well.

The horse that is such a certainty never has won and never will. And, even if it did win, you would lose just the same.

In the Crowd.

Just when the crush is thickest, when the King is passing by, somebody may tap you on the right shoulder. If so, turn to the left, for it is the man on the left who is after your pin or watch or purse.

The visitor who leaves his valuables at home will not lose them in the crowd.

The King's outrider is not His Majesty's jockey. The man in scarlet and gold is not Lord Kitchener, but a trumpeter. The gentleman outside the King's carriage with his hat on is the King's coachman. The gentleman inside the carriage with his hat off—to you—is the King. So take off your hat to him and cry—

"God Save the King!"

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

By W. M.

Thys Pole
Marketh ye spotte
Where
All thatte was mortal
of
Sir Ernest Shackleton
Lyes buryed,
Hys spirit havynge departed on itts last expedicion
To an unknowne, butte maybe warmer,
Clyme.
Born Anno Domini 1874,
Hee,
Whyle yette in hys infancie,
Informed hys astonished and delyghted parents
thatte
He wanted ye South Pole,
And, moreover,
Thatte hee woulde notte bee happie till hee gotte itte.
Ye South Pole notte beynge procurable atte ye moment,
Hee perforce contented hymselfe
Wyth beynge sent to sea in
Ye Merchante Marine,
And in due course became a
Lieutenant in ye Royale Naval Reserve.
In ye year 1901
Occurred a crysis in hys careere,
To wit:
Insteade of devotynge hymselfe to hys orygynal occupacion,
And, maybe,
Risynge to ye posicion of First Mate
Of an Ocean Tramp,
He gave way
To ye insydious desyre for
Antarcktick Exploracion,
And
Joyned ye National Antarckick Expedicion as
Third Lieutenant.
An inscrutable Providence,
Whose unfathomable purposes defie
Ye pueryle speckulacions of mannekynde,
Permitted hys return;
Buttee,
Beynge by thys tyme provyded wythi
A wyfe and familie,
Hee was anxious to return agayne
To
Ye colde, whyte sylence of ye Antarcktick;
Soe
He tooke commande
Of ye British Antarcktick Expedicion,
Anno Domini 1907-9.
Butte ye South Pole,
Doubtless dodgynge behynde ye ice hummocks,
Eluded hys discoverie,
And hee returned
Wyth a few photographs,
Etcetera,
And
Followynge ye prayseworthie exsample of sundrie
Previous Arcktick and Antarcktick Explorers,
Proceeded forthwyth to wryte a booke,
Ye whyche,
Publyshed atte a hyghe pryce,
Brought hym much filthie lucre,
Ye whyche hee added to
By leckturynge to gapynge rustick audiencies
Throughout ye Countrie.

Here lyeth one who, though hee fayled
In hys South Polar dash,
Atte leaste on hys returne prevayled
In hys greate fyghte for cash:
Intoe hys handes ye coins dyde roll
From people who were "uppe ye pole."

LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.

A FREE GIFT OF A RACEHORSE.

SEE WEDNESDAY'S ISSUE.

DO NOT ACCEPT SUBSTITUTES for

Stephens' *Ink*

No Dealer *SHOULD BE* "Out of stock".

***NO OTHER* Ink is "Just as good."**

FADS.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

I do not absolutely insist on everyone being, and doing, precisely the same as everybody else, but would remind eccentrics that deliberate struggles after originality are very common among lunatics. Indeed, when a man begins to wear straws in his hair, or to mistake himself for Napoleon Buonaparte, or to run down Piccadilly without a stitch of clothing, we are tempted to whisper and nudge and hint that perhaps his judgment is just the tiniest little bit unbalanced. Even when he feels compelled to touch all the lamp-posts while taking a walk down Fleet Street, he has to write at least a dictionary to distinguish his genius from insanity.

A Gilbertian Grimacer.

I believe in people being natural and yielding to pleasant impulses so long as they do not offend reasonable prejudices. But I regard artificial originality as worse than none at all. The so-called æsthetic craze was a case in point. A commonplace Cockney versifier set out to attract attention by dressing up in plush and buckles, staggering about in grotesque attitudes, and trying to induce hypnotic trances by staring at lilies and peacock's feathers. A crowd of knock-kneed, flabby, good-for-nothing people accepted him as their high priest and simpered in his train, clad in sea-green curtains or butchers' smocks or turnip-coloured sacks. The only result was that healthy people wanted to kick them, Gilbert and Sullivan drowned them in a butt of ridicule, the poet grew fat and took his yellow teeth to gaol.

Poppycock Polytheists.

The difference between a craze and a fad is that the one is merely an invitation to say, "How unusual," or "How wonderful," while the other contrives to suggest "How wise." There are quite a number of conscientious fools who are incessantly striving to do the right thing, only, unfortunately, they possess no sense of proportion. As a rule they go most hurriedly astray over questions of food and religion.

It suddenly occurs to them, for instance, that Jonah was certainly never swallowed by a whale, or that Balaam's ass did not possess the same gifts of eloquence as are exhibited by some asses to-day. So they jump to the conclusion that the orthodox creed cannot be true, and, instead of suspending their judgment and devoting the rest of their lives to theological research, they take up at haphazard with some rival faith.

Dupes of Demonology.

Nirvana, as described in some sixpenny manual, sounds very soothing, so they hop about on one leg reciting invocations in Pali and try to project their souls across country under the vain delusion that they have become Buddhists. Or they sit round tables in dark suburban parlours, while conjurers inspire the furniture with acrobatic agility and rap out senseless messages, according to a code, with their toe-nails. Then they are spiritualists, and have won for themselves the right to commune with the mighty dead at half-a-crown a time. Or they adhere to the magic of the Middle Ages, and ignorantly indulge in all sorts of crazy antics, in the hope that a parody of ancient ritual will endow them with all the wisdom of Solomon and Amen-Ra. Then they are bled or blackmailed, packed off to prison or Bedlam.

The Mirage of Life.

All that is far too strenuous for the mild inquisitive multitude. They are quite content to leave experts to lay down what they shall believe about religion as well as about art, literature, good taste, morals and even politics. But the chief concern of the average life is to prolong it. Take any man, woman or child at random, and you will be told that these are hard times; a troublesome world; a miserable, weary existence. Yet everyone of them will stint, struggle, fight, cheat, become a nuisance to himself and others if he perceives a possibility of adding a few years to his mortal coil. The old idea of a short life and a merry one has long been relegated to the limbo of exploded fallacies.

The Golden Road to Riches.

I have never been able to make out why anyone is fool enough to starve when it is so easy to make a fortune by promising relief for every human ill. If you look out of your window at any given moment, it is safe to bet that out of every ten persons who pass by one is illegitimate. But if you wanted the odds about their possessing the affliction of illness and hypochondria, you would find the proportion infinitely greater. Tell the victims that they will be relieved of their dyspepsia or lassitude or anarexia or alcoholic remorse, and there is no limit to the absurdities which you will readily induce them to commit.

Practical Jokes.

If only I were a practical joker, I might assure myself ceaseless merriment from morn till night, from the feast of the Conception to that of St. Sylvester, by the simple expedient of inventing funny remedies. If people will greedily devour dog-meal bread and swill rancid milk and run hatless or bare-legged through the City in the hope of benefiting their livers and lights, there is no reason why I should not persuade them that they would live for ever if only they wore their clothes inside out and painted their noses indigo and wore a girdle of dead cats and slept in the horse-pond.

The Nuts.

A mild and wide-spread example of hygeiolatry is to be found in vegetarians. Some of them refrain from their natural food because they have been told it is wrong to take life, though they probably do not go the length of providing old age pensions for rats and lice, or reflect upon the fact that picking primroses amounts to constructive murder. Others adopt the craze because they fancy there are fewer malignant germs in a nut than a chicken.

I tried it myself for a time, not because I care whether I take life or lose it, but because I must know all about everything. Besides, I was going through the Bankruptcy Court at the time and I thought the diet sounded cheap. Well, it was not quite so nasty as I expected. Nor did I come away with that feeling of impotent repletion which one associates with an Aerated Bread Shop meal or a diet of biscuits and chocolates. But I think the anti-meat people are still a long way off from commanding popularity. Their chief mistake is the slavish imitation of flesh foods.

I was not impressed by saw-dust cutlets or nut steaks or cotton-wool rissoles, though if I had shut my eyes and stretched my imagination I might have mistaken them for confections of Australian mutton, Russian chicken or Argentine beef with all the flavour frozen out. The soups, too, were unnecessarily weird. I am enough of a gardener to mistrust dandelions, and my first instinct was to resent being called upon to drink them. There are plenty of excellent dishes to be made out of vegetables, milk, eggs, fruits, and cereals.

Gruesome Greens.

If I tried to persuade people to give up meat, I should try to make my dishes tempting. At present Mr. Eustace Miles sacrifices everything to cheapness. No doubt many of his customers like to line their stomachs abundantly at the cost of a few pence.

But the real restaurants will never put up their shutters, the vegetarian craze will never become fashionable, until daintiness and luxury form part of the menu. At this season of the year such things as asparagus and strawberries and new English potatoes come within the compass of comparatively slender purses, and it seems to me hopeless to carry on a campaign when the vegetable ammunition is restricted to spinach, cauliflowers and gruesome "greens."

Consider the fruits of the earth after their kind. Is it not monstrous, is it not almost insulting in the merry month of May, to be offered nothing more palatable than oranges and apples and bananas at a vegetarian restaurant?

Ghastly Games.

A fad does not become more excusable because it is more widespread. Look at the fads of recent years. At one time everyone was playing bridge, not because it was amusing or instructive but because it was thought the thing to do. At another time vast multitudes sacrificed much time and money and comfort in gaping at prepared football matches, while nothing would induce them to devote the same enthusiasm to the far more intellectual sport of cricket when summer smiled anew.

In Praise of Plain Water.

Then there is the horrid fad of water-bibbing. I confess that I have now given into it for several moons, because it happens to clear my brain and increases my opportunities for serving mankind. But what a death sentence it passes on all human sympathies, all innocent gaiety, all the merriment of life. Still, if one must have a fad, one may as well have a cheap one, if only in view of the ultimate satisfaction of settling up with stockbrokers and money-lenders and commission agents and all the other saints of modern society.

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OPEN LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

To Admiral Badger, U.S.A. Navy.

DEAR BADGER,—My standing offer of a prize for the most blazing indiscretion is unhesitatingly awarded to you for the toast which you proposed during your recent visit to Danish waters. The Yankee Fleet has contrived to make things hum a bit all round during its recent peregrinations, and I hear many startling stories about the exploits of your blue-jackets, especially in Paris and various French ports. But nothing can have rivalled the affectionate effect of your rising at a Danish banquet and solemnly proposing the toast of the German Navy. I know that foreign affairs and the distinctions between foreign countries are generally ignored among Yankees, as though they were of no more consequence than differences in breeds of monkeys. But I should have thought that before you set out for Denmark someone might have taken the trouble to prime you about the little detail that the Danish and German Navies have not always been precisely indistinguishable. If the King of Denmark had not been quite such a punctilious host he might have been prompted to retaliate by drinking to the resuscitation and speedy revenge of the Spanish Fleet. I must really introduce you to old Nathan, the Mayor of Rome, who has hitherto specialised in your kind of foolishness. You may remember how, when the King of Sweden was feeling specially sore about the loss of Norway, Nathan congratulated him on his birthday and sent the telegram to—Christiania! You have certainly beaten him on the post with at least a stone to spare. By the way, what is the Danish for Badger? Olet?

JOHN BULL.

To Lord Alfred Douglas.

DEAR BOZEY,—I have read the exciting piece of news that you have just been received into the Church of Rome. I do not know why this should have been expected to interest the public, except that, when you ran *The Academy*, you contrived to attract a minute amount of attention by your vehement declarations of devotion to the Church of England. Even when your sub-editor was had up on a criminal charge at the Old Bailey you could not refrain from thrusting your theological opinions down the throats of judge and jury. Evidently something very serious must have happened to induce a pious person like yourself to forsake the Church of his fathers. Indeed, I should rather have expected to see you, if only Nature had endowed you with more muscle, standing forth to defend Anglicanism according to the Marquess of Queensberry's rules. Really, you arouse my curiosity and must tell me all about it. Were you attracted by the generous indulgences which your new Church lavishes upon its faithful sons?

JOHN BULL.

To the Very Reverend the Dean of Rochester.

DEAR DEAN,—I was much entertained by reading a report of your speech at the Diocesan Conference, and note your contention that "Sunday should be spent in preparing for Eternity, of which it is really a foretaste." I quite agree with you that Sunday, as created by Sabbatarians, was indeed a foretaste of Eternity. With nothing to do, with happiness taboo, with any relaxation of the muscles condemned as a damnable heresy, one grew more and more convinced that the day never would end. Even drawing down the blinds only made matters worse, for there was only the memory of astronomy to convince us that the sun was still travelling across the horizon. But I do not quite understand your point. Surely it will be time enough for us to begin the discipline for Eternity when it is upon us? I can understand training for a comparative sprint like the Derby, but not for a process of development which you tell us is to last for ever and ever, Amen.

JOHN BULL.

To Admiral Togo and General Nogi, en route, London.

GALLANT WARRIORS,—With all my heart I welcome you both to London town for the festivities of the Coronation. None will be more honoured as our guests than you, Admiral Togo, the "Nelson of Japan," and you, General Nogi, the great victor of Port Arthur. Your illustrious Emperor is our ally, and you are our friends. Good health, good luck, and good-will.

JOHN BULL.

To the Chairman and Messrs. Aldermen Thornton and Walker, Borough Magistrates, Retford.

GENTLEMEN,—In the case of Joseph Simpson, the Worksop carter, recently before you on a charge of working his horse while in an unfit state, the fine inflicted was utterly inadequate to the offence. When seen on the road with a gash on its thigh and sores upon its shoulders, the horse was literally staggering under the heavy load of furniture it was pulling. Unable to go any farther, it dropped to the ground. Released from the shafts, it could scarcely stand; yet the man coupled it to the load again, and eventually the police had to put an end to its agony. From Worksop to Gainsborough is 16 miles, and from Gainsborough to Retford is 8 miles, so that this poor, emaciated, tortured beast had dragged itself and its weary load 24 miles before its condition was discovered. All these facts were before you. It is clear the man is one of those inhuman, callous brutes who would work a horse till it dropped dead in his service, and you who were in the seats of judgment thought that a fine of 1s. and costs was sufficient. Leniency is one thing, but leniency made ridiculous is another. You, gentlemen, have made it ridiculous; and the effect of it, I fear, will be to increase in Retford the miseries of dumb animals through the cruelty of human brutes.

JOHN BULL.

To Colonel P. B. Giles, Urban District Council, Bletchley.

GALLANT COLONEL,—It is one of the sayings of the author of Ecclesiastes that to every thing there is a season and a time to every purpose. I suppose, therefore, there must be a time and purpose which would justify one man flinging a steel inkwell at another man's head, or even kicking him downstairs. Let me say at once, however, that I refuse to believe that a meeting of the Bletchley Urban District Council is either the one or the other. When the members met, under the chairmanship of Dr. Deyns, the other day it did not seem probable that the marks of your presence would be left either on the wall-paper of the Council Room or the frontispiece of Mr. Chignell. The promise, sir, was fair; the actuality was disastrous. As I understand the order of battle, you alleged that Mr. Chignell had remarked in his speech that there were only two or three members of the Council who cared for the interests of the workmen. He said he had not made use of those terms; you drew a gallant breath and persisted; he retorted that it was an untruth; you advanced for a frontal attack, and, declaring that you allowed no man to say you were telling an untruth, picked up the steel inkwell and hurled it at the enemy. For one brief, awful moment it seemed as if the suddenness and fury of the onslaught, combined with weight of metal, would bear down the surprised foe, and that his body, gashed and gory, would have to be carried out to the mortuary. In another, he had ducked, the metal whizzed harmlessly by his head, leaving him black in parts and amazed all over.

Sir, I should not like to sit with you on the Bletchley Council. You are too explosive, too peppery, too sudden altogether. What the ratepayers gain from you in argument they lose in ink.

JOHN BULL.

To the Editor of "Punch."

MY DEAR CONFRERE,—Your discovery of Pudsey is belated. Every Pudseyite knows it was discovered many years ago, as is vouched for by the story of Parson Jones, who lived and died in Pudsey. In due course he presented himself at Heaven's gates, and rang and knocked for St. Peter, who promptly appeared and asked his name and address. "I'm Parson Jones, fra Pudsey," said the visitor. "From where?" asked Peter. "Fra Pudsey," the reverend gentleman repeated. The tale goes on to explain how the saint could find no one who had ever heard of Pudsey. At length, he said: "Come inside. You'll find no one you know here." This is the really genuine story of Pudsey, which please note.—Yours,

JOHN BULL.

Sir H. Seymour King, 25, Cornwall Gardens, South Kensington.

DEAR EX-CONFRERE,—As you know, Charity is cold, but Justice appears to be even colder, and would freeze the sacred font—at any rate, at election time. Hard luck!

JOHN BULL.

ON THE TRAIL.

THE PRUDENTIAL PAPER-CHASE.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

The Bank of England Obtains More Gold—Monetary Outlook Favourable—Stock Exchange Prospects More Cheerful.

It so happens that the Continent does not require any gold just now, and as large sums have been sent from Paris and the Cape, rates of discount are lower again, and a reduction in the Bank Rate in the near future is quite on the cards. Investors are still being kept back from operating by the talk that there will be no improvement until after the Coronation, but this is altogether silly, and I think, on the contrary, that investors should avail themselves of the present opportunity of buying stocks at low prices. There has been some buying by the public of Home Rails, but it will probably require the Whitsun traffic to bring about an important improvement, which, I think, will come in time. Just now the market is adversely influenced by the mysterious weakness of Consols. The Yankee Market is hardening, and the time is not far off when we shall see higher prices, as the United States are in a far better monetary position than a year ago, while the crop outlook is very satisfactory. This also applies to the Dominion, and *Canadian Pacifics*, as well as *Grand Trunks*, are improving, on the view that the land sales of the *Canadian Pacific* will probably add a further bonus to the shares. *Mexican Rails* are temporarily under a cloud, owing to rumours of riots at Puebla. I dare say that matters are not so bad as they are represented. Oil shares are improving, and Rubbers having passed through a severe crisis, the market is more hopeful now. There is a distinct rally in Rhodesian Mines, a development which I have been anticipating for some time, and when Rhodesians have taken their proper place in the Mining Market, Kaffirs will also come along. Diamonds are firm, but West Africans are still in a very weak position, and neither West Australians nor Barriers are attracting attention. What Copper Mines may do when the fresh scheme for reducing the output in the United States has been concocted remains to be seen. A very important rise has taken place in tin, which has now touched £215, and sound tin companies, like the *Zuaiplaats* or the *Balcobo*, are bound to benefit thereby.

Mines to Find Salvation in the Rhodesian Market?—Mr. Albu's Points for Kaffirs—'Ware Russian Mines.

Will mines find their salvation in the Rhodesian market? Matters seem to be tending that way, although no real revival is expected until after the Coronation. Meantime, developments on the leading properties continue very encouraging, and the *Shamva Mines'* report has created a good impression. It is certainly significant that a good deal of business has been done in the way of call options on Rhodesia Explorations for the end-July account, and my previous recommendations in this department still stand good. Everybody is despairing of Kaffirs, but that is just why I still have hope also for this market, if only because of the excellent points made by Mr. George Albu at the meeting of the General Mining and Finance Corporation in Johannesburg last Tuesday. The working costs of this group, for instance, show a small decrease, despite the labour troubles on the Rand, which have caused a rise in working expenses in most of the other mines. Then there has been an expansion in the ore reserves of the group from 3,800,000 tons, at the end of 1909, to 5,000,000 tons at December 31 last. Napoleon believed in the big battalions, and the General Mining and Finance people believe—and rightly so—in the big batteries. *Jungles* may be dismissed almost with a word, and *Westralians* are not in much better case, especially in view of the fall in the grade of ore from 16 to 15 dwts. per ton disclosed in the *Great Boulder* directors' report. Tin shares have been a firm spot, on the rise in tin to £216, but there has been a moderate reaction in *Southern Shan States* to 1⅛; I look, however, for a fresh rise when the new subsidiary company makes its bow. Mexican gold mines are very irregular, and, while *Mexico El Oro* have improved to 8⅛ in anticipation of an encouraging half-yearly statement, *Camp Birds* are down at 30s. 0d. *Waihi* are weak at 3, on the water troubles in the mine and threatened labour unrest. The Russian mining section is a very dangerous one, as speculation is getting out of hand.

Leading Oil Shares Firm—Shell Transport Improve—Sound Producing Maikop Shares Hardening.

The rumours concerning a settlement of the oil war have so far not been confirmed, but there has been good buying of *Shell Transports* up to 89s. 6d., and the price of crude oil at Baku is reported unchanged at 20¾ copecks per pood. No doubt sooner or later the oil war will come to an end, especially as the *Standard Oil Company* has been in a difficult position in its own country. The production of the *Spies Company* last week shows an increase of 22 tons. *Oil Trust of Galicia* have advanced sharply to 4½, and thus the Bears are being badly squeezed. *Ural Caspian* have improved to 1 19-32, but it would appear to me as if this rise was going too fast. *California Amalgamated* are firmer at 1 7-32, on the satisfactory statements made at the meeting. Amongst the Maikop group, some of the shares are hardening, which is not surprising, as the production of oil is only hampered by the limited capacity of the Maikop Pipe Line, owing to the pumps not being efficient yet. This, however, will be put right in a few weeks, and for the week ended 28th inst. Ekaterinodar received 4,352 tons, of which 2,519 tons have been delivered. *Maikop Victory* is evidently still delivering oil to the pipe line on a large scale. As regards the *Black Sea Oilfields*, the report for the month ended May 13th is to the effect that the production during the month was 341,473 poods, which with the stocks on April 14th make 720,173 poods. Of this amount 16,135 poods were delivered to the refinery and to consumers, and 550,487 poods to the Maikop Pipe Line. It is, however, added that, owing to the present limited capacity of the pipe line, only sufficient oil is produced to maintain the proportion allotted to the company. When the pumps are in order, the proportion will be increased, and as further pipe lines are being constructed, the output will presently, even amongst these two new companies, attain very large dimensions. Under the circumstances, *Black Sea Oilfields Prefs.* at 1¼, and the *Ordinary* at 1⅜, are very tempting, as very large profits are being earned. Similarly, *Maikop Victory* at 5-16 prem. are a good purchase, and *Maikop Valley Oil Prefs.* at 5-16 to ¼ discount are one of the cheapest of the shares, as indications of oil have been obtained in several instances. *London and Maikop Oil Corporation* are quoted par to 1-16 prem., and we are expecting to hear of that Corporation having commenced delivering oil to the Maikop Pipe Line by the next cable. One of these days the Bears who are at present working against the Maikop Oilfield will no doubt be severely caught.

Asia Caoutchouc Trust.

Circulars in French, recommending the "Asia Caoutchouc Trust, Société Anonyme, au capital de £1,000,000, divisé en 1,000,000 d'Actions de 25 francs chacune," are being showered broadcast over Paris by Morgan, Dupuy and Co., of Moorgate Station Chambers, Moorfields, London, E.C. The circular in question is before me, and the gist of it is the invitation by the firm mentioned to buy shares "at the quotation of the London Stock Exchange, with 1s. prem. per share of £1," for which purpose a payment on account of ten francs per share is invited. I should be glad to know more concerning this undertaking, and so would, no doubt, the numerous Parisians who have received the circulars. There is, of course, no quotation on the London Stock Exchange for these shares, and there is nothing to be gathered from the usual books of reference.

The Eastern Smelting Company, Ltd.

The last balance sheet of this Company, which is registered in Penang, has been forwarded to me, with the remark that it is intended to get rid of the property in London, and it is for that reason that I offer a few remarks. The Company appears to have paid 10 per cent. dividend for the year 1910, amounting to $112,500, out of gross profit of $141,900, commissions and bonuses accounting for best part of the rest, but the accounts give rise to the following questions:—Has an inventory of the plant and machinery been taken, which figure in the balance sheet at $129,000, and which, according to local opinion, is an altogether absurd amount? A sum of $150,000 also stands for goodwill, and that surely would have to be reduced. The items of tin and tin ore in stock and transit, $788,000, moreover, are lumped together, and it would be desirable to know the separate items, and especially also the estimated tin in furnaces, and who estimated it, and finally the question is asked is it a fact that practically all the European staff at the works left during 1910, and why? The result arrived at, with the paid-up capital of $1,133,884, is by no means satisfactory, when the high prices of tin are considered which ruled throughout 1910, and the question, therefore, arises what will the profits be reduced to, when, as no doubt will happen sooner or later, tin drops again to a normal price? These are questions, at all events, which the Directors will have to face, should they, in order to avail themselves of the high price of the metal, venture to offer the concern on the London market, and it is for the benefit of our investors that I invite the most careful scrutiny.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

SOCIETY.—HARROGATE.—In view of recent developments, I do not consider such investments safe, and advise your sister to withdraw her money and put it into gilt-edged securities. P. B. S (Peterboro').—I do not like the system of these societies, and I advise you to withdraw as soon as possible. As regards the statement of the agent in question, before accepting it, get it confirmed in writing from the head office. T. B.—I have not heard of this, and you should not accept the statements of the agents unless you can get the same confirmed in writing from the head office. Generally, I am adverse to investment in all such societies, and if you can withdraw, you should do so at the first opportunity.

JUNGLE MINE.—MRS. B.—I do not like these shares, and do not advise a further purchase. Prestea Block A, for instance, would be distinctly preferable.

CHAPMAN, LOWERY, AND PUTTICK.—HEATHER.—This must be a private company, as it does not appear in the usual works of reference. I am, therefore, unable to give you the information asked for.

BRISTOL COLISEUM, LIMITED.—W. F. L.—It has not the dignity of a place in the usual works of reference, but if this is brought to the notice of the secretary, it might hurry up the issue of the certificates. There is no market for the shares.

EGYPTIANS.—EGYPTOS.—There does not appear to be much chance for these shares, in view of the fact that the Egyptian Government discourages speculation. Sell them, and go into something more active.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—ICHABOD.—I also believe that this firm used to pay differences, but unfortunately the last rise in Americans has come very much *mal apropos* for the outside brokers who run against their clients, and this is probably the reason why you have not been paid. As you have to pay 4⅛ for option money, that brings the price up to 187½, and you would, therefore, not get more than 2 points profit or, say, £4. When you buy on margin, it is different. R. J. G.—These are outside brokers, and I do not like their system, which consists chiefly in making you sell your own stocks in order to buy theirs, which are not so good. ON GUARD.—I think you had better leave well alone. The people are not paying their differences regularly, so very likely you would lose your money. TRUST ACCOUNT.—What is the use of your asking my advice after having gambled through Hessell, Gould and Co., of 66, Victoria Street? The name "Trust" is, of course, quite inappropriate. It is merely a term to attract the unwary. As you say you cannot get any answer from them, it is probable that they may have departed. I would have told you not to deal with them The other firm you mention are outside brokers, who, I believe, are respectable, but I do not know anything about their means. SEKHET.—As you are absolutely ignorant of Stock Exchange affairs, I strongly advise you not to gamble in this way, or else you will lose your money. If you have a fair amount saved, put it into sound securities, which will pay you good interest, and I will be pleased to advise you on this point if you will let me know. X. Y. (Derby).—I do not quite know what firm has issued the circular which you send me in a mutilated form, and without the name of the outside brokers, but it is the usual claptrap of the outside broker who wants you to gamble in shares. Have nothing to do with it, and if you have sufficient amount saved, invest it in sound securities, and I will give you the name of a stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange, if you wish it. H. W. W.—It is impossible to tell from your statement what the amount is which you have to receive from these people, as you do not put the price and the date at which it was closed. Fortunately, you have received £19 2s., and I do not think you are likely to get any more, as these people are very bad payers, and I have had repeated complaints. E. H. W.—It really is absurd to do deals in Canadian Pacific shares on an option money of £2, and, of course, you have not protected yourself by insisting upon the account being closed when there was a profit. The price on January 16th, when you got the option, was 213¾, and it has since been 215, but it also was again lower, and under the circumstances, you cannot do much. These kind of people are not philanthropists, and if they get a loophole through which they can get out of any liability to pay you, they do so. R. H. (Leeds).—I strongly advise you to have nothing to do with this Birmingham firm, concerning whom there are numerous complaints of delays in payment. NEMO (Armagh).—Both are outside brokers. No. 1 have hitherto met all their claims, but, of course, it is mere speculation, and not investment. No. 2 I have never heard of, and being so far away from the Stock Exchange, in the West Central district, I should think that they ought to be avoided. H. S. W. (Eastbourne).—The financial stability of these outside brokers does not exist. There are a great many complaints with regard to non-payment of claims, and you should give them a wide berth. IRISH ENQUIRER.—(1) The Anglo-American Investment Trust, of 212, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C., is an outside concern, and I do not advise the connection. No. 2 is somewhat similar. YORK.—You do not seem to understand that this is not an investment, but merely a speculation, and you may as easily lose as gain by it. I should strongly advise you, instead, to invest £20 in a sound security which is likely to improve, and take the shares up, and pay for them. For this purpose you will, of course, require an inside broker, member of the House. DUNCAN FORBES AND COMPANY.—B. C. H.—I have repeatedly stated that Duncan Forbes and Company, of 49, London Wall, do not pay their clients if they make profits. The assumption is that they run against their clients, and if the clients lose, they pocket the money If they make profits, they do not pay. McKinley, Alexander and Sons, of Kingsway, are a similar concern, and it seems very difficult to get any money back from them You have made your experience, and I trust that you will have nothing more to do in future with this kind of outside brokers, but deal instead with a member of the Stock Exchange, and invest your money, instead of gambling it away. I am afraid even solicitors will not be able to help you with these two firms.

DUNCAN FORBES AND COMPANY.—A. W. D. AND OTHER ENQUIRERS.—You have not, unfortunately, been quick enough, as these people are in a bad way, as, in fact, I stated in JOHN BULL of April 22nd. The latest information obtained is that a number of actions have already been commenced against the firm, and that judgments obtained, but such judgments are so far unsatisfied.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.—D. C.—No, I do not like these deposit accounts in building societies. It is not safe, and I strongly advise you to invest the money in sound securities to yield from 3½ to 4½ per cent., when you always have the amount in your own hands. If you like, I will give you the name of a stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange, who will buy the stocks for you.

PREMIUM BONDS.—M. P. B.—I am sending you the name of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of Premium Bonds, and who would be able to sell them for you if you wish.

OILS.—ANSERK.—In comparison, Maikop Victory still seem to be the cheapest.

OIL AND MINING SHARES.—J. P. B. (Hull).—No option but to hold Tasman. (1) I should certainly not sell these shares now. (2 and 3) These Oil shares are promising according to the reports of the Government Inspectors W. J. F.—The correspondence is returned, and seems all right. There is no reason why you should not buy some Ontario Porcupine shares, and if you wish to buy Oil shares, you had better select Maikop Victory at about 5-16 to ⅜ premium.

FOREIGN LAND INVESTMENT.—S. O. H.—There are considerable possibilities, but it is, of course, a speculation, and you must yourself decide whether you will risk the money. IN DOUBT.—In this same concern you have invested a small amount, and I give you a like answer. It is, of course, a speculation which may turn out all right, but you must decide yourself. Same reply to W. H. J. (Erdington). Same reply to J. T. (Blackpool) Same reply to A. E. (Rushton).

FOREIGN LOTTERIES.—HAMBURG.—Foreign lotteries are illegal in this country, although the Hamburg Lottery is quite respectably conducted, under Government control. It is, however, notorious that a great many lottery tickets are being placed here by the Continental intermediaries. J. H. (Maidenhead).—It is quite useless my writing articles on foreign lotteries, as these are illegal in this country, and I cannot, therefore, lend myself to the pushing of such tickets.

RHODESIAN MINES.—ANONYMOUS.—I am not in the habit of taking notice of anonymous letters, such as you write from Brighton. As shown by your letter, you are absolutely ignorant of the position of Rhodesians, and if you continue in the same way, as no doubt you have made some "Bear" sales, you will be badly punished within the next few months.

ADVERTISING TRICKS.—ADSA.—If the matter is as you have stated it, you certainly are not liable for the advertisement for which you have given no order. It is one of the many tricks of the dishonest advertising canvasser. If they should sue you, which I do not believe they will, you have a complete answer.

DOVER, DEAL AND FOLKESTONE ELECTRIC THEATRES, LIMITED.—E. C. W.—It is not, after all, unusual that these concerns should be dilatory in bearing out the promises of the prospectus, and according to the statements which you send, dated May 20th, they only received on account of share capital £5,133, and nearly all that amount seems to have been paid away, if we include the preliminary expenses, so that it was not possible to pay for the erection of the Folkestone Theatre, unless more money was obtained. I am not able to say whether the open-air entertainment which is to be substituted on this site during the summer will pay. The documents are returned.

VICKERS.—MESPHILUS.—The continued decline in these shares certainly calls for explanation, and I note the report you mention, viz., the resignation of a prominent official connected with the company, he not being satisfied with the management. What have the directors to say to this?

DEPOSIT.—PUBLICAN.—I think that you have a good claim for the repayment of your principal, but surely your solicitors would be able to tell you. Of course, you must please yourself whether to chance sueing the liquidator in the High Court, but, personally, I should do so.

NEW ZEALAND OIL.—J. B. (Wigan).—These should be bought. See my article in last week's issue.

HOW TO GET ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE.—WILLIAM.—It is not so easy to get on the Stock Exchange, and it requires a good deal of money, so if your son is ambitious of becoming a member of the Stock Exchange, you will have to find a considerable sum. What is usually done in the case of a young man is that he becomes a clerk in the office of a stockbroker. He must have been at least four years in that position, and have a clean record as clerk before he can become a member of the Stock Exchange. He will have to find two sureties each of £300, and must buy one Stock Exchange share, the present price of which is about £207. He also will have to pay an entrance fee of £262 10s., and the annual subscription is £42. At present, a considerable number have entered their names already, and generally only twenty are taken at a time. To become a member of the Stock Exchange at once requires an entrance fee of £525, a subscription of £42 per annum, the purchase of three Stock Exchange shares, the present price of which is about £207 each, and the nomination, about £100, total about £1,246, besides the annual subscription, and he will also have to find three sureties of £500 each, and unless a young man is very active and able, he is not likely to do well.

(A large number of replies are unavoidably held over)

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

PURCHASE OF ANNUITY.—ANXIOUS (Torquay).—There is considerable difference in the terms granted by different offices, even when of equal standing. You should choose an office which, in the event of early death, returns some of the money sunk. One way is found in a return of a portion of the purchase money, varying according to the number of years the annuity has been paid; another way is by a guaranteed annuity for a certain period.

INSURABLE INTEREST.—SON-IN-LAW (Halifax).—It is open to you to insure for the purpose of covering the funeral expenses of a parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, or sister, but the insurance must be for a reasonable amount, that is to say, for an amount not seriously in excess of the cost of a funeral suitable to the circumstances of the person insured. Probably somewhere about £15 would be considered a reasonable limit.

THE IDEAL POLICY.—G. S. (Watford).—No medical examination is necessary.

ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH LAW, LIFE ASSOCIATION.—BUFFA (Manchester).—Yes, certainly. We should be inclined to pay the £29 16s. 8d.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—M. M. (Birmingham).—Assuming the correctness of your description of the policy, there is no insurable interest.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—F. F. (Cambridge).—You had better pay the extra premium as demanded, or you risk the loss of your policy. L. B. (Oldham).—We should accept the offer of the agent. The policy covers no insurable interest. WARDER (Gosport).—The policies you enclosed in your letter are quite genuine, but they are not, in our opinion, desirable ones to hold.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE CO.—W. C. R. (Forest Hill).—It is impossible for us to express an opinion as to the value of the policies unless you give us fuller information than is contained in your letter.

PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON.—J. W. B. (London).—If you will give us any specific case of misleading statements, and support it by adequate evidence, we will go into the matter.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—D. H. (Falkirk).—We do not think you could require the company to return the premiums you have paid. If you did not choose to apply for the advance it was your intention to ask for when you originally joined the Provincial Homes, that is your matter. It is not open to you to say, as you wish to do, that you have changed your mind and want your money back. INVICTA (Ramsgate).—The answer to questions one and two is in the affirmative. As to question three, it is governed by the answer to questions one and two. We return your policy.

GENERAL ACCIDENT FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—P. P. (Bwana M. Kubina Mine).—We do not see what you have to complain of. Your policy does not extend beyond certain limits; your accident happened when you were beyond those limits, and the company is quite within its rights in refusing to hold itself liable for your accident.

SCOTTISH LEGAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—PATSY (Vauxhall).—If the facts are as you state them, the policy is valueless. Communicate with the head office and let us know what they say.

RETURN OF PREMIUMS.—J. P. (Lincoln).—We fear you would find it difficult to obtain a return of the premiums. We return the will.

CITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Thirteenth Annual Report and Balance-Sheet.

A Year of Steady Progress. Encouraging Future Outlook.

The chairman, Mr. N. W. Hubbard, J.P., said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—Your directors have pleasure in submitting their report for your consideration and approval, together with the balance-sheet and accounts for the year 1910.

As you will have observed, the Ordinary Branch revenue is separated from the Industrial Branch revenue, and a further sub-section of Schedule 1 headed "Sinking Fund and capital redemption insurance business" appears in the accounts for the first time; as does also the second schedule, setting forth the profit and loss account for the past year, which you will be gratified to notice, as set forth in the schedule, shows, after making the necessary reserves, the substantial balance of £5,531 5s. 4d. on the year's working.

The rate of interest assumed by the company's actuary in his valuation is 3 per cent. in the Life Branch and 4 per cent. in this Endowment Certificates Branch, whereas the actual interest earned in both branches is 5 per cent., and we know of no valid reason why this rate of interest should not be maintained in the future, and the stability of the company being thus improved, the effect must of necessity be beneficial to all interested in the company's welfare.

It will be within your recollection that at our meeting in 1909, I said: "The directors have given special attention to the development of the Life Branch, and this policy they propose to continue in the future"; and last year in referring to this matter I stated "in pursuance of that policy the directors have discontinued the issue of endowment certificates."

In discussing the action of the Board in thus discontinuing what was up to then the chief portion of the company's business, the insurance and financial Press with great unanimity described this as a courageous policy. I may say that your directors, after careful and prolonged consideration, had no doubt as to the wisdom of adopting this policy, and experience has happily justified the action taken.

The change of policy referred to necessitated the reorganisation of the company in several important directions, which I need hardly say required careful consideration and discretion in bringing into operation; this work is now practically complete, and the directors have every reason to anticipate a period of progressive and profitable development of the company's operations in all parts of the kingdom.

One of the most important features of a life assurance company is its accumulated funds. The funds of a life office may fairly be regarded as an index as to its stability or otherwise. You will doubtless have noticed with satisfaction that our funds manifest a healthy growth, having increased during the year by the sum of £51,167, and with the addition of reserves and paid-up share capital, now stand at the relatively large amount of £580,598. The reserves have been further strengthened by the creation of a general reserve fund of £10,000, and by increasing the investment contingency fund to £6,000.

The new Industrial Branch of the company has made marked progress during the year, as will be seen by the new business record shown at the foot of the revenue account, 77,005 policies having been issued, securing a new annual premium revenue of £41,202 4s. 4d., but as may be anticipated in business of this class, where weekly payments are largely taken, the effect of this new income, as is well known, does not immediately show itself in the account, and the initial expenditure incurred in the creation and up-building of an industrial branch can only be productive from a profit-earning standpoint with the lapse of a reasonable period.

The activity of the advance department is undiminished—during 1910 advances were made representing £130,759, making a total of £1,386,650 advanced since the establishment of the company. May I, in this connection, call your special attention to the large amount this year credited to the members' mortgage accounts? No less a sum than £32,670 12s. 5d. was thus credited, making a grand total up to date, as stated in our report, of £155,718 13s. 1d. As a consequence, the borrowers have saved in interest the relatively large amount of £20,432 2s. 5d.

The amount paid as claims in the various departments amount to £76,434 13s., being £30,513 5s. in excess of the year 1909, affording an indisputable evidence of the great benefit secured by the company's policy-holders. I think you will agree with me that having regard to the changes through which we have passed, and the establishment of the new Industrial Branch, the record now before us is eminently satisfactory, and all interested in the Company's welfare may look forward to the future with every confidence. I now beg to move that the directors' report and accounts be adopted.

The resolution having been seconded by Mr. Wm. Stewart (Deputy Chairman), was submitted to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

The declaration of a 5 per cent. dividend on the preferred shares was also approved.

"APPLES OF GOLD."

THE COMMERCIALISING OF SOUTHERN ONTARIO'S GREAT HARVEST.

Southern Ontario may be said to be the Colony most closely resembling the Motherland, the Province being mildly undulating with no elevations of considerable height, whilst the hedges and fences, so prominent a feature in English pastoral landscape, are here to be found in abundance. The climate is exceedingly temperate—such as to allow of the growing in the open air of large crops of even such delicate fruits as grapes, peaches and tomatoes. Indeed, the Province of Ontario produces 75 per cent. of all the fruits grown in Canada—60 per cent. of the plums, 70 per cent. of the apples, 80 per cent. of the pears and small fruits, and 90 per cent. of the peaches and grapes. But apples are Ontario's best known and principal products, as it possesses the best soil in the world for their growth. Its exportation of this fruit to England has grown rapidly of recent years. Starting with 1,279,000 cwt. in 1905, it has rapidly increased, until in 1909 (the last year for which there is a complete return) it reached the enormous figure of 1,635,000 cwt., or 52.3 per cent. of the whole of the apples imported into the United Kingdom. During this period the imports from all other countries fell from 2,215,000 cwt. to 1,493,000 cwt.

Quality Tells.

The reason for this signal indication of popular and growing favour over here for Canadian apples, is to be found in the exquisite flavour of the Ontario fruit—for, as we have said, nearly three-quarters (and they the best) of the Canadian apples come from the Province. This steady and increasing demand requires no artificial fostering by such means as advertisements, the unbeatable qualities both of taste and appearance of the Ontario fruit commanding a ready sale, as the demand for good apples, both here, on the Continent and in America, is always much greater than the supply. The excellence of the Ontario fruit is attributable partly to the wonderful climate and soil of the country, but also, no doubt, in part to the fact that the southern portion of the Province takes the shape, roughly, of a peninsula, jutting out into the great Lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario.

The New Company.

In the most advantageous positions in this district are situated the estates of a Company—the National Land Fruit and Packing Company, Limited—formed in 1910 to amalgamate, carry on, and extend the growth on 795 apple estates. The orchards upon the Company's property contain (the prospectus, which has just been issued, states) over 140,000 bearing trees, of an average age of between fifteen and twenty years, thus constituting what is believed to be the largest apple producing property in the world under one proprietorship. The Company owns 9,115 acres (of which 5,377 are freehold, and 3,738 leasehold) ranged in five principal groups—the Niagara District, the Georgian Bay District the Lake Huron District, the Lake Erie District, and the Lake Ontario District. As their names imply, these estates are upon the shores of the Great Lakes, while the spreading of their locations provides a range of varieties and assures the Company against a shortage of crop in any season.

The Growing Demand.

The production of the various properties has during the last five years increased from 1,131,195 bushels, to 1,367,364 bushels—a highly satisfactory progress, and one, at the same time, indicating that no sacrifice of future results has been made in order to obtain an undue present yield. Hitherto, fruit culture has been conducted on somewhat small lines, but the National Land Fruit and Packing Company will bring to it all the resources of capital and the latest knowledge, taking advantage of the great amount of information acquired from the practical experiments at the Government Agricultural Farms—which prove that, as compared with unsprayed orchards, the same number of trees, after spraying, will yield, on an average, upwards of three times the quantity of high grade fruit.

However, the value of the 5,700,000 bushels of apples which have been produced from the Company's orchards

during the last five years, mainly under the old system—though not definitely known owing to the various means which the farmers, who were the former owners of the properties marketed their fruit—is believed to be considerably over £200,000 per annum.

Adequate housing accommodation, and ample storage for the fruit is provided on the freehold estates, while provision is made on the leasehold properties, for free cartage, storage facilities, manure, performance of certain cultivation work, and board and lodging for the Company's staff is provided at fixed and moderate charges.

A Progressive Policy.

The Company proposes to acquire other specially located orchard lands, and to plant annually upwards of 1,000 acres of early-bearing standard varieties. The work of extension will be inaugurated this year, and from it should, of course, be derived an ever increasing profit.

Transport facilities are excellent, the shipping charge per barrel to the port of ocean shipment is approximately but 6d., as compared with 2s. 1d., the impost on fruit from the Pacific coast.

The directors, most of whom—as will be seen—are very strong local men, comprise:—

H. Pollman Evans, of Toronto, President.
(President Union Life Assurance Company.)

Thomas T. Rolph, of Toronto, Vice-president.
(Vice-President the Home Life Association of Canada.)

Hon. George E. Foster, M.P., of Ottawa.
(Former Minister of Finance for the Dominion of Canada.)

D. A. Burns, of Toronto.
(President Imperial Loan and Investment Company of Canada.)

William M. German, K.C., of Welland, Ontario.
(Member of Dominion Parliament, County of Welland.)

E. L. Taylor, K.C., of Winnipeg.
(Director Acme Loan and Savings Company.)

G. L. Campbell Dauncey, of London.

An Attractive Class of Share.

The capital of the Company is £250,000, divided into 150,000 7 per cent. Cumulative Participating Preference shares, and 100,000 ordinary shares (issued and fully paid) all of £1 each. The 150,000 7 per cent. preference shares are now being offered for subscription. Besides the right to the preferential dividend of 7 per cent., they are entitled to half the divisible surplus profits in each year, after paying 7 per cent. on the ordinary shares. They, therefore, enjoy the best feature of an ordinary share—the unlimited profits—whilst retaining the strong point of a preference share—fixity of interest. There are no bonds of debentures to rank before them.

Another strong point is that, as the prospectus puts it: "Practically the whole capital investment is on improved land, of itself growing in value, and is directly and increasingly productive, in this respect offering a security fundamentally different from almost all other industries, where a large part of the capital is locked up in brick, mortar and plant, in itself wholly unproductive, and if for any reason unsuccessful, can only be sold as scrap. The orchard properties of the Company could at any time be cut up into hundreds of separate parcels, each one valuable as a producing unit, and readily sold singly to small growers at a substantial profit. While manufacturing plant depreciates in value every year, young orchard properties continue steadily to increase in value for a generation. The profitable life of a well-cared-for orchard of good varieties extends from 50 to 75 years."

The apples grown upon the Company's estates readily command from 6s. to 12s. per bushel, and from 14s. to 25s. per barrel. The Company further proposes to establish a number of manufacturing plants, close to each group of properties, where such fruit as is not marketable in the ordinary manner will be sent, to be treated by evaporation or other process. Evaporated apples are in demand practically all over the world, but especially in Western Canada, realising prices which show almost as good a profit to the Company as is derived from the best fresh fruit. With so immense a quantity of fruit—estimated this season at over 1,200 tons—the by-products such as peelings, cores, etc., are valuable. Another remunerative portion of the Company's business should be that in cider, vinegar, and pulp waste.

The Estimated Profits.

Owing to the exceptionally favourable location for short rail and ocean transport, the Company's apples, even when sold at the lowest market prices for high-grade fruit, should realise excellent returns. The prospectus estimates that the profit on this season's crops will be as follows:—

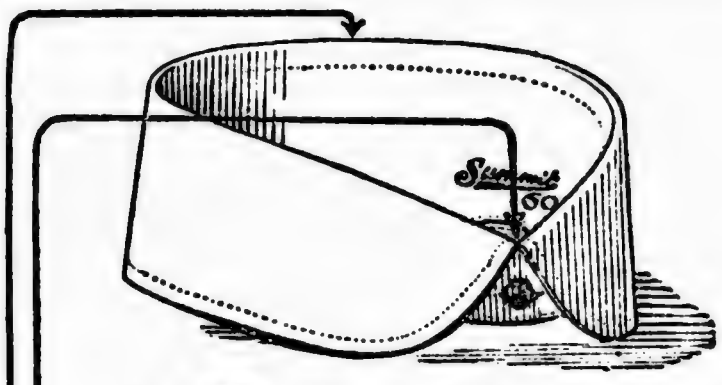
140,000 boxes at 6s.	£42,000
140,000 barrels No. 1 at 16s.	112,000
56,000 barrels No. 2 at 14s.	30,200
84,000 barrels at 12s....	50,400
70,000 boxes evaporated at 12s.	43,750
	£287,350
Expenses, including cultivation, pruning, spraying, picking, land and ocean freight charges, rentals, marketing, and all other expenses and charges, estimated at ...	£221,667
Allow 10 per cent. for contingencies	22,166
	243,833
Estimated net profit	£43,517

or more than four times the amount required to pay 7 per cent. on the whole of the preference shares.

Expert Supervision.

The Company's staff will be under the constant supervision of pomological experts from the Government Agricultural Department and Experimental Farms, who, in addition to their scientific training, have had many years' practical experience in fruit growing in Ontario, and also in such commercial details as its packing and exporting for the various markets of the world. In addition, during the busy season of the year—from the middle of September to the end of October, when the bulk of the crop is being gathered—a large amount of temporary labour is easily obtainable, the regular agricultural harvest of Ontario being practically over, and thus releasing a great number of men, who are available at considerably lower rates than are paid during the ordinary harvest period.

To the investor who exercises prudent choice, the great orchards of Ontario should, indeed, produce, in the words of Solomon, "apples of gold."



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LETTERS FROM JANE ANN.

BEING COMMUNICATIONS FROM A YOUNG PERSON TO HER FRIENDS AND RELATIONS.

BY MOORE ANKING.

SKIBBORIDGE NEUK,
SITHA, N.B.

MY OWN DEAREST BERT,—You can't tell how pleased I was to get your loving letter and hear the glad news.

Another sixpence a week, angel, and so soon, it seems almost too good to be true. P'raps that's for tumbling off the van without hurting the paint. Getting seven bob now, aren't you, dear? Oh, Bert, shan't we have a lovely home. One thing, if your firm is making a lot of money it shows they don't forget the working classes. I s'pose they see you know all about the bisness and when people understand each other it's half the battle, ain't it, dear?

Like when we lived in Dosser's Buildings, father used to say Our landlord knows he's got good tenants, so he's stopped asking for rent; I know I've got a good landlord so I never offer him any, not a bally farden. We were very happy there, and I don't suppose we should have left, only one Christmas the landlord went a bit dotty and some men come and took away our front door and boarded up the windows. Then father took another place for us.

But I do feel pleased, dear, at you getting on in the world. One thing, I hope you'll take care of it. Since I wrote you last October I've bunged another eightpence in the bank. So if we both pull together, dear, we shan't be short of money whatever happens, and married people never know their luck. What I mean is there's always some expense getting a home and family together.

O the tanner rise we won't despise,
If you get it every time you do a bender,
We can have our furni-chure inlaid with ormo-lure
And nobs and twiddly bits upon the fender.

You mustn't mind me, Bert, this is one of my giddy minnits. Good job, in a way, you're not here, darling, my word, people *would* have something to talk about. Wow wow.

What I think is, when a person's reelly and truly in love and same time takes an interest in things, they're bound to get on. Seems only right and proper that they should.

You'd hardly bleeve it, Bert, but some of the girls here can't manidge youngsters nohow. And yet when I come on the seen they're good as gold. Don't matter how restless they are, I seem to tame 'em. And I don't shout and carry on, oh dear no. I just lean over and whisper Be quiet you little beast else I'll slap your hand. After that there's no more trubble, they seem to know if they don't have good behave-yer they'll get a walloping first time the pram leaves home.

It's the word that's gently spoke what reelly helps. You don't want to show any temper with children or dogs or horses, though s'far's I can make out men what drives vans and things is different. If I was you, Bert, I shouldn't use any authority much in your firm not till you've put on a bit more wait. Father once spoke nasty to a carman and for weeks he had to sit on the organ 'stead of pushing it. Even after he was able to walk he couldn't rightly manidge the handle, and for playing 'Old the Fort in ragtime one dear old soul wanted to have dad locked up. I got a middlin' memory for history, ain't I, pet?

You would like to be here for some things, Bert, specially the sammon fishing. Not a bit like tiddlerin' at Onestead Flats. I used to think sammon was reared abroad, under glass. 'Stead of that, they catch 'em with a thin rope first, then when they're being hauled up one man has to stand and hit 'em with a crowbar, else shoot 'em through the head.

Now the weather's getting stronger, Bert dear, I think I should have the next lot of garments made wider across the gazeeka. If you go bike riding or anything like that, you don't want to be strangled, do you, dearest? What I mean is you better have the proper cubik feet of airspace, and I don't s'pose the tailor 'll charge any more, not if he's a rightminded person.

I shall be looking forward to your next letter, dear. Barring food and shelter and things, you seem to be all I'm living for.

x x With sweetest love, Yours only, x x

JANE ANN.

For pictorial descriptions of all the Sports of the Week, see *LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.*

CHAIRMAN.

A fine tobacco that brings content. Whether smoked much or little it is always the same—always gives satisfaction. Of a fine aroma and with a unique and most pleasing flavour it may be smoked day in and day out as it never burns the tongue.

BOARDMAN'S

is the same tobacco, milder, and

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the same, but fuller flavoured.

6d. per Ounce Everywhere.

R. J. LEA, LIMITED, Manchester.

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

"Half-a-Crown."

What a waste of energy, what a waste of time, and, above everything, what a waste of talent, there is at the Royalty Theatre over so poor an affair as the three-act farce (is it a farce?) written by one named Frank Howel Evans. Who is responsible for the selection of so dull a show? The character—the principal one—of Christopher Middleton no more suits the style of Mr. Dennis Eadie than Shapespeare's Romeo would. Mr. Eadie is one of the James Welch type, he has a thin figure, pathetic voice, and appealing manner, none of which belongs to the dashing devil-may-care stage lover—farcical as the part in "Half-a-Crown" is evidently intended to be by the author. Mr. Eadie, masquerading as a rollicking waiter in a shoddy Italian café, is pitiful to see—but Mr. Eadie, as the half-starved hunted clerk in John Galsworthy's play, "Justice," is a gem of acting never to be forgotten; Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Miss Suzanne Sheddon, and many others are absolutely thrown away in "Half-a-Crown," which is proceded by C. B. Fernald's weird and creepy little picture of life in Chinatown, San Francisco, which is a sort of "Bowery" full of opium dens and thieves' haunts—a place that exists just outside New York city. Mr. Norman McKinnel makes Wing Shee a grim, powerful study of a wily Chinaman, as deadly in his purpose as he is vigorous in his strength to carry it out to the murderous end. The soft snaky movements of our old friend John are extraordinarily well expressed by Campbell Gullan as Chim Fang—how often I've been walking along the sun-kissed streets of California and found one of these fleet-footed gentlemen almost touching my shoulder before I've been aware that I was being followed; and on board ship, too, they seem to spring from nowhere, do these pigtailed gentlemen. Produced at the Lyric, some fifteen years or so ago now, "The Cat and the Cherub" has lost none of its eeriness—and the manner in which Mr. Norman McKinnel throttles the creature who has killed his son is about one of the most thrilling sights ever seen on any stage—it makes you shiver with the horror of it. This bit of realistic out-West life is well worth seeing.

The Duke of York's.

Laurence Irving has had a good try for success in London, and I am sorry he has not received the "backing up" he deserved. But what I want to know is, now that "Margaret Catchpole" has failed and "Mary" Tempest is opening at the Duke of York's, where is Laurence going to produce "The Girl of the Golden West," by David Belasco? It was an unfortunate thing that by contract the opera composed by Puccini had to be heard in London prior to the play being seen—why, I can't conceive, for according to report the opera did not meet with much approval in America, whereas the drama was one of the biggest money-makers on the road there, and in Australia, too. However, I am glad Miss Tempest is once more going to play in "The Marriage of Kitty," adapted from the French comedy in which Réjane scored so heavily, for it is one of the English actress's cleverest performances.

Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant.

The St. George's Hall of mystery has been made more uncanny than ever by the novelties introduced chiefly by Mr. Devant. The varied sensations this "chatty" magician gives you are really most wonderful, and interest both children and "grown-ups" alike. I am told that Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant have received offers to give turns on music-halls at salaries per week never before dreamed of by the highest paid, but, in each case, the offer has been politely refused, therefore the secrets of these unrivalled masters of magic have never been revealed. "Psycho," the Indian figure which smokes cigarettes and plays a game of whist with any three from the audience, still baffles the senses of those who watch. Now the "Chocolate Soldier" has come along to make us wonder still more. There is but one item Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant cannot cause to disappear, and that is the crowd that daily fills St. George's Hall to marvel and be amused with the entertainment there.

GRATIS.

I have 500 Coronation Ties remaining, and in order that you shall try the merits of the well-known speciality, Swan Collars, the best value in Collars the world produces, I will, on receipt of P.O. value 1/1, send you sample 8 Swan Collars and enclose with same one of these beautiful Coronation Ties. Swan Collars are made in all sizes, shapes and depths. This offer is only available up to the number of Ties named, so that an early application is advised. Illustrated Catalogue Post Free. King, Hosier, Sole Agent in this district for Swan Collars, Clapham Cross, S.W.
Swan Collars (wholesale), 39, Seething Lane, E.C.

The following statement appears in a recent issue of

"TRUTH"

and has an important bearing on the subject of purity of food supplies

"Undoubtedly if all articles of food were as carefully manufactured and as exactly what they represented themselves to be as those which I have passed under review, the world would be much healthier, wealthier, and wiser. The day may come when all foods are prepared under conditions as hygienically perfect as those which are so scrupulously maintained in the St. Ivel factories and warehouses. That day is not yet. Still, year by year science is becoming more and more the handmaid of diet, telling us what food we should eat, and telling the manufacturer how that food should be prepared. Unfortunately, it is not every manufacturer who listens to the biddings of Science, and does his best to fulfil her mandates.

"Fortunately the manufacturer who does so usually meets with the reward he seeks. Excellence of produce is the usual result of obedience to the scientific behest, and excellence of produce, as in the case of the St. Ivel preparations, creates demand. It is a lesson which sooner or later all manufacturers of articles of food will need to learn for themselves, and if they neglect it and find themselves distanced in the race for popular appreciation by those wiser than themselves they will only have themselves to blame. The success which has attended the scientific methods of the manufacturers of the St. Ivel preparations is quite sufficient to show which way the wind of public estimation is blowing. The public wants its food pure, and it wants its food good, and when it realises that any particular food is both pure and good it will insist upon having it."

St. Ivel CHEESE
LACTIC

Ivelcon, St. Ivel Potted Meats, St. Ivel Pies.

OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER IN PRESTWICH.

HOW THE ASYLUM IS GOVERNED—THE WORKING MANAGEMENT—THE FARM AND GARDEN—HORSES NOT FIT FOR EXPORT—THE MEAT SUPPLY—WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY.

How the Prestwich Asylum is Governed.

The governing body of this asylum is the Lancashire Asylum Board, with headquarters at Preston. There are five asylums under its jurisdiction, but all the Board does is to exercise its authority in the appointment of the superintendent and chaplain, and the control of capital expenditure. The Board leaves the appointment of all the officials, their salaries, etc., maintenance, and management to what is termed the Visiting Committee. This Committee is composed of Aldermen and Councillors of the County of Lancashire, Bolton, Bury, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport and Wigan, all of which towns send patients. These gentlemen exercise full powers in all matters (except those above mentioned), and could buy or sell the institution, or turn it into a bear garden generally, if they so chose. Notwithstanding the fact that they are thirty-six in number, it is on the regulations that three form a quorum.

In my estimation, three as a quorum seems quite inadequate to govern a public institution containing over four hundred officials, and nearly three thousand patients, and which spends annually £90,000 of public money.

The Working Management.

The Chairman of the Visiting Committee is Mr. Thos. H. Jenkins, who, I am told, is a retired banker. The Clerk is Mr. R. T. Redman, who combines with that position the posts of steward, farm bailiff, meat expert, storekeeper, pig-breeder, etc., etc., all in the interests of the place. There seems to me to be room for considerable improvement in the methods adopted by the responsible officers who work under this quorum of three.

The Farm and Garden.

In other asylums under the Lancashire Board these are run by a sub-committee. At Prestwich, however, they were until lately managed entirely by the Clerk, who was on all matters relating thereto the Cæsar from whom there was no appeal.

Some time ago, however, there was appointed on the Visiting Committee Alderman R. E. Stephenson, who happened to be an expert on farm stock—and then the trouble began.

He reported that the horses were aged, all but unfit for use—one over 24 years old, one blind, and another with hind legs almost denuded of hair through mud-rash; the cattle (from which the milk supply for the asylum was derived) a poor lot, containing a goodly number of "screws," and that when he saw them, they were actually being fed on swill containing bones, etc., etc.—while the stock of pigs he stigmatised as little better than vermin, and said a great many were ruptured. As the gentleman in question has during the last three years taken 216 prizes for pigs, this caused quite a sensation in the neighbourhood. The local press took the matter up and public feeling ran high, so, to satisfy all concerned, the Visiting Committee appointed a party of experts to see where the blame lay. This body appeared on the scene seven months after Mr. Stephenson's report, and they described the pigs as a "beautiful, healthy lot." They omitted to say, however, that in the interim 62 of the "vermin" had been slaughtered and 134 sold, so that what were presented for their inspection were the cream of the lot, who had had seven months to pull up. What those sold were like can be judged by the prices they brought. They realised, *privately*, an average of 22s. Had they been in good order they ought to have brought from 32s. to 35s. The pigs from the other asylums under the Board are sold under the hammer, and I have a letter before me from the auctioneer stating that they fetched from 30s. to 120s., according to age. Why this method is not adopted in Prestwich I do not attempt to explain. However, the loss on this transaction alone seems to have been about £60 to £70.

As to the cows seen by Alderman Stephenson being fed on swill containing bits of meat and bone—practically a charge of cannibalism—this was one of the things upon which the investigation committee reported.

Here is an extract from the report:—"It is not the practice to feed the cattle on flesh meat, the presence of meat in the cows' feed on the date mentioned being *purely accidental*." So the experts admit the allegation!

The Clerk, Mr. Redman, in his report to the Committee on the same matter states: "The cows are fed as follows—Indian meal, hay and straw. This is mixed together, and to this is added *any dry refuse from the kitchens*." It seems that Mr. Stephenson's charge is fully borne out.

Where the Milk Goes To.

In the annual report of the farm there is debited against the institution 69,600 gallons of milk at 8¾d. per gallon, and as a footnote to the same occurs the following item: "Butter made, 23,921 lbs." Now I have it on the authority of the manager of the United Creameries, who make an immense amount of this commodity, that a fair average butter yield is ten quarts of milk to the pound of butter, so that takes away from the production no less than 59,600 gallons, and leaves only 9,000 gallons for use, an average of two gallons per head per annum for the 3,500 souls.

But this is not all. If it takes 10 quarts of milk to make one pound of butter, and the milk is debited to the institution at 8¾d. per gallon the butter therefore costs 1s. 10d. per lb., without the cost of making. Put this at 2d. per pound and the price becomes 2s. Now butter can be got of first-class quality for 1s. per pound, if bought wholesale. As there is apparently consumed in the institution close on 24,000 lbs., here is a direct loss on this one item of £1,200 per annum.

Horses Not Fit For Export.

In the official balance-sheet the nine horses are valued by the Clerk at £221, being an average of £24 10s. The veteran of 24 does not figure in this estimate, as he was slaughtered soon after the visit of Mr. Stephenson. The date of this valuation is March 31st, 1909, and it is certified as correct. Now, mark what happens. On April 14th—within a fortnight—one was slaughtered and sold for 17s. 6d., another in November for 25s., and yet a third in December for 15s., because they were too old. This brings up the value of the remaining six to an average of £36 each!

The Meat Supply.

In 1904, a contract was issued for "Young, American, chilled, selected quarters." The contract was given to a large contractor, who supplies all over the country. Argentine meat was sent, but was refused by the Steward, who said that United States meat was required. The contractor pointed out that the Argentine was in America; further, that if United States meat was wanted it should have been so stipulated, as the price was higher. Whether the Committee were offended at this lesson in geography or not, I cannot say, but the contract was terminated forthwith, and for a time the meat was purchased in the open market, by the Steward. Some months after, another contract was called for, and this time they made no mistake, as the contract called specifically for United States meat. Even this was not right, it seems, for after a little time it was discontinued, and the open market practice again reverted to, the Clerk stating that the fluctuations of the market could be taken advantage of.

Waste of Public Money.

I have before me the prices paid by the institution during the last thirteen weeks of 1910, and side by side with them are the market quotations for the same period, given by the five largest wholesale meat suppliers in the Kingdom. A comparison shows that during the whole of this time only two quarters were bought at the average market price, while in one week three-quarters were bought at a premium of 1¾d. per pound. Taking a quarter as 200 lbs., the loss on these three items alone is over £4. There were 443 quarters of different sorts purchased during the period in question!

DR. MACAURA RETIRING.

Going Back to America After Coronation Celebrations.

GREAT SUCCESS OF PECKHAM DEMONSTRATIONS.

Dr. Macaura's public demonstrations, which were held at the Queen's Hall, Peckham, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings of last week, attracted large numbers of people; many sufferers from the various surrounding districts were present, while numerous men and women who had been cured by the Doctor's "Pulsocon" showed great eagerness to testify and praise the good work that had been effected in their cases.

During the first evening of the demonstrations, notwithstanding the great storm which broke over London, a considerably large audience assembled, most of them drenched to the skin, yet when the Doctor suggested to them that the demonstration should not proceed, unanimously they objected. They preferred to remain, drenched as they were, and witness the proceedings.

On the second evening of the demonstration the Hall was packed.

Dr. Macaura in a few well-chosen words explained his method of treatment with the aid of radiographic pictures, which greatly interested the audience. As an indication of the permanency of the cures effected by the "Pulsocon," he showed on the screen letters from Lord and Lady Roberts, as well as a signed photograph of Lord Roberts. The letter from Lord Roberts left no doubt as to the benefit Lady Roberts had received from the use of the "Pulsocon," and the result still holds good after 10 months.

The pictures of many other well-known people (grateful patients of Dr. Macaura) were also shown, among them being Madame Clara Butt, the world-renowned contralto.

Announcement of Dr. Macaura's Retirement Comes as a Surprise.

There was a considerable stir in the audience and cries of "No! No!" when Dr. Macaura, with evident feeling, announced his intention to retire from practice in three weeks' time. There was a decided emotional tone in his voice when he briefly related the opposition and prejudiced feeling among his fellow practitioners in Great Britain—jealousy was evidently the basis of such opposition, he said, but one great gratification remained, however, and that was the fact that since the commencement of his campaign in London he had made over 50,000 friends among those whose afflicted and crippled condition he had cured. These 50,000 people, he said, were all his friends, and each of them had purchased one of his machines, and what was a still greater satisfaction to him was the fact that these sufferers, whom he had cured (when other doctors and hospitals had ceased in their efforts to even relieve them), would in turn cure others, and in course of time secure for him the friendship and gratitude of hundreds of thousands. The audience cheered for several minutes.

Pioneers of So-called Unorthodox Methods.

The pioneers of so-called unorthodox treatment and methods, the Doctor continued, were considered the black sheep of the medical profession. Let them stray from the fold of monotonous failure, and go out of their way, so to speak, to render the suffering public a service, to effect cures which accepted theory of treatment had failed to do, and immediately such an individual was branded as a quack and charlatan. "Results—cures," he said, "is what I am after, and I have secured them by the thousands. (Cheers.) If that is charlatanism then I prefer to be a charlatan."

At my Royal Albert Hall demonstration a few weeks ago the organised rowdyism of the medical students, whether in a spirit of mischief, jealousy, or prejudice, prevented me from saying to my audience much that I intended to say. They prevented me from giving proof of the soundness of my treatment of mechanical massage.

Surgeon of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

The surgeon of St. Bartholomew's Hospital wrote a postcard to a patient of mine treated at my last Demonstration at the Royal Albert Hall, and whom I have now almost completely cured. This patient was requested to report on Tuesday morning at the hospital, and it was stated that should he fail to attend it would be taken that he was not cured. Well, the patient went; he is here now, his name is Mr. G. F. Reynolds. A representative of one of the London evening papers went with him, but was refused admission; Mr. Reynolds was taken inside and questioned. I am informed that the surgeon is now in the audience; if he is I should like to hear anything he has to say. There was no response.

Rev. Few (Vicar of Seal) and the Local Government Board.

During the demonstration the Rev. Charles Few, Vicar of Seal, requested permission to address the audience.

We have heard to-night, he said, with the greatest regret, that Doctor Macaura is going back to America and retiring from activity in this wonderful movement. I regret it immensely.

He has done great work, and I mean as far as I can to force this matter upon the Government. I have been to see the Rt. Hon. John Burns, M.P., about it, and I demand upon the score of kindness to the poor that the Doctor's "Pulsocon" should be in use in every union infirmary in London.

I had an interview with the Local Government Board. I told them something very interesting. I am giving the Right Hon. John Burns, M.P., plenty of time, but he must tell me that he won't do it—or he will.

I have a man coming from the Ladywell Home of Rest to the Doctor's charitable Institute, which he has opened for the poor, at 300, Queen's Road, Camberwell, and with which I have actively associated myself.

That man has received so much relief that I wrote to ask the master if he would allow him to come every day. I spoke with some authority because I have been a chairman of the Sevenoaks Rural District Council for six years and have been on that body for twenty-one years. Well, the man has been permitted to come to the Doctor's free hospital daily as requested, and he is rapidly progressing.

The vicar related several cases that had come under his notice, and in every instance, he said, wonderful results had been attained even in cases where the poor sufferers had been turned out of hospitals as incurables.

These facts will be brought before the Local Government Board, supported by well-known local physicians of repute who have to my knowledge bought the Doctor's machine and are using it on several chronic cases with good results. Will the Board, then, dare to refuse immediate action in the matter? "Well," he said, "we won't say wait and see," but we must see, and at once.

People have said that Dr. Macaura, by opening up this free hospital for the poor at Camberwell, is getting a good advertisement out of it. Well, I only hope that he is, for he deserves it. If all the other physicians in England would open up free hospitals for the poor for the sake of advertisement it would be much better for the poor.

During the evening about 12 sufferers were treated, the names and addresses of each being first read out to the audience, some of them over 70 years of age, and unquestionably sufferers of the most chronic types, and in every instance the immediate and visible relief they received was decidedly astounding.

Dr. Macaura, in concluding, said that his institute at Pembroke Hall, 133 to 135, Oxford Street, W., would remain open during the remainder of his stay in London, and a free trial treatment would be given everyone who called. The New Model "Pulsocon" could also be obtained by those requiring it at the reduced cost.

The hours at the Doctor's Institute (Pembroke Hall) are from 10 to 6 daily, Saturdays 10 to 4.

IS CANADA WORTH KEEPING?—XIV.

"ONE WOMAN TO EVERY MAN."—REMAIN AN ENGLISHWOMAN!—THE COST OF LIVING.—THE VAMPIRE CITY.—"TORONTO THE GOOD."

Our Commissioner on the "Free Lands" writes:

"ONE WOMAN FOR EVERY MAN."

The Government Year Book does not reveal a state of things that would indicate a unique market for the single woman in search of a husband. When the last census was taken, Canada contained 2,751,708 males and 2,619,607 females, and I am told that the proportion of females to males has since increased. One would think from the statements made, with an object, that every girl in Canada stood the chance of being snatched up and whisked off to the Hymenal altar; but that is not so. The Canadian girl, I understand, is as keen to get married as is her sister elsewhere; yet the towns swarm with them. It may be that they have not heard of the splendid marriage market out West, but decent Canadians tell me that they know what the life of a farmer's wife is and will have none of it. It is not good enough for the girl of the country, but it will do for the English girl who listens to the glowing mendacities of the Salvation Army emigration tout or reads the equally mendacious statements in the literature issued by the Canadian Government, the shipping companies, and the railway people. The bodies concerned have a big interest in having the western farmers married. When a single man earns enough to get home he leaves the country; when a man is tied up with a wife and children he has to stay where he is.

REMAIN AN ENGLISHWOMAN!

The farmers of the prairies are an all-nation lot, and the young woman at home may wish to have a list of the races that she may pick and choose from. They are Armenian, Bohemian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, Cuban, Dalmatian, Dutch, East Indian, Filipino, Finnish, Flemish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Herzegovinian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Magyar, Mexican, Montonegrin, Moravian, Pacific Islander, Polish, Portuguese, Roumanian, Russian, Russniak, Scandinavian, Servian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Spanish-American, Syrian, Turkish, West Indian. There you have the races compiled alphabetically by the Government. Look through the list and see how much savage and semi-savage blood it represents before the men arrive on the prairies at all to have it made more savage. It may be that some of them want English wives, but——!

THE COST OF LIVING.

The cost of living in the towns is a matter which the immigration agents leave severely alone. House rent for a given accommodation is in Canada more than twice the price it would represent at home. As for provisions, they fetch all through Canada nearly three times the home prices. We are told that clothing is as cheap in Canada as in the old country. You can get in London a suit for three guineas; you can get a suit in Canada for the same price. The London garments are, as a rule, decently tailored and made of cloth; the Canadian suit is the ready-made, slop-shop manufactured article, built of shoddy, that sells in the cheaper parts of London for about twenty-five shillings. Taken "by and large," a four shilling piece in Canada has about the same purchasing power as eighteen pence in England. This is a fact that the Englishman with an eye on Canada should take into account when reckoning up the possibilities, with the bait of big wages dangling on the hook before his eyes. This much about the towns and cities, where—to take one article—the humble cigarette that sells at home at twopence-halfpenny per packet of ten, costs sevenpence-halfpenny, and in some places tenpence. When you mention the difference in prices to the storekeeper, he tells you it is on account of the high duties charged by the Canadian Government. Out on the prairies prices rule higher still, for you have to pay the cost of haulage, which in winter is expensive. The bulk of the farmers travel to the towns for their supplies—often a matter of from thirty to forty miles of a trek.

Our Commissioner at Toronto writes:—

THE VAMPIRE CITY.

The rapid growth of Toronto is frequently quoted as one of the evidences of the abounding prosperity of Canada. Readers of Dickens will remember that Squeers, when canvassing for pupils for Dotheboys Hall, took his son Wackford along as a sample of the excellent physical condition produced by the regimen of that institution. "Look at him, gentlemen," said the fond father; "why, he has the fatness of twenty boys." "Yes," said Newman Noggs, "he's got it all. God help the others!" Just so, Toronto has grown big and wealthy by draining the lifeblood of the rural towns and townships within its sphere of influence. They languish while it flourishes. The great majority of Toronto people have come from the small towns or the country. With the extension of the railway system and the growth of large department stores, employing enough people to make a small city, and pushing business all over the country, trade is becoming more and more centralised here. Toronto is known as "Hogtown" by the denizens of less prosperous places, which look with envious eyes upon its phenomenal growth; to which the obvious retort is that it is better to be a full-fed hog with both feet in the trough than a half-starved little pig. Let those laugh that win.

Toronto is run by the Conservative party, the Orange Lodges, and the Nonconformist Conscience, though the latter term is not strictly appropriate, seeing that there is no established church. The two former elements are largely identical, nearly every Protestant Conservative being an Orangeman. Lodge influence is all-powerful in civic affairs, membership in the order being practically essential for any aspirant to municipal positions—of course, there are a few exceptional cases to prove the rule. The Orange body vaunt their power and exercise it unscrupulously to fill all the public offices with their adherents.

"TORONTO, THE GOOD."

A rigid sabbatarianism prevails. Both hotel bar-rooms and liquor stores are closed from seven o'clock Saturday night to six o'clock on the following Monday morning. But not satisfied with this, the "unco' guid" have for years been carrying on a crusade with varying success against the sale of ice cream, non-intoxicating drinks and cigars on Sunday. These restrictions are hard on the crowds who flock to the parks and pleasure resorts in thousands every Sunday and naturally seek some refreshment. These characteristics have won for Toronto the admiration of the peripatetic evangelists and professional moral reformers from the States, who frequently come here in the course of lecturing tours or to attend religious gatherings. On some such occasion one of them enthusiastically christened the city "Toronto the Good"—a term now principally used in derision by the ungodly.

LEMONADE FOR CORONATION FESTIVITIES

250 TUMBLERS OF THE BEST FOR 2/6.

An ideal drink for children and adults alike is Eiffel Tower Lemonade, made from the choicest Lemons the world produces. A 2/6 bottle requires to be sweetened with 8 lbs. of Sugar at 2d. per lb., so that the total cost of 250 half-pint glasses is only 3/10

This season's Eiffel Tower Lemonade is made from **Sicilian** Lemons. Send to your Grocer for a 4½d. bottle to day, making 32 glasses, and try it for yourself. If any difficulty, send 4½d. in stamps to Foster Clark, Ltd., Maidstone.

There are to be Coronation Festivities for the children in your district. Why not make a present of a glass of delicious, cooling, health-giving Lemonade to each child during the afternoon sports? How much it will be appreciated on a hot day! It i such a long time for a child to wait for the tea bell.

SIR, BOGNOR.

Allow me to inform you that at the Episcopal Garden Party, held at the Palace, Chichester, by the Lord Bishop of Chichester, last week, when there was a very large gathering, more Eiffel Tower Lemonade was drunk than anything else. Thinking that you might like to know this.

I am, Yours faithfully (Name Withheld by Request).

Eiffel Tower Lemonade

CORONATION EXHIBITION,

Great White City,

SHEPHERD'S BUSH, LONDON, W.

:: :: NOW OPEN FROM 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. DAILY. :: ::

. TOUR OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE .

Natives at Work amid the Scenes of their own Countries.

COUNTLESS AND UNIQUE ATTRACTIONS

INCLUDING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN EUROPE

MAGGIE PAPAKURA'S MAORIS.

Famous Military Bands. *Coronation Illuminations.*

ADMISSION, ONE SHILLING. Children Half-price.

ATTRACTIONS FROM SIXPENCE. Children Half-price.

GOOD POSITIONS

can always be found for men with Special Ability. There are hundreds of men with special Aptitude for a certain class of work who are in positions where that Aptitude has no scope, and is accordingly not appreciated or properly paid for. We want such men. If you are one of them and can prove that you are capable of filling a Responsible Position, write us to-day — or call.

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Nine out of ten Loose Leaf Ledgers sold are the

"VERONIQUE" Loose Leaf Ledgers,

because Business Houses of all sizes and classes have adopted them entirely. A "short cut" is made to Book-keeping, and the use of "Veronique" saves time, trouble, and worry in the daily accounting. No business can be too large, none too small, to find the "Veronique" the greatest aid and stand-by. No slotted leaves, no complicated mechanism. Opens absolutely flat.

Of all stationers. Write for booklet to Edgar and Co., Ltd. (Dep. "J.B."), 34 and 34a, Moorfields, E.C. The "Veronique" is manufactured for the Patentees by Messrs. Thos. de La Rue and Co., Ltd., London.

ROYAL AJAX

Established 25 Years.

From **6/-** Per Month.

OR SECOND-HAND

£2 10s. Cash.

LISTS POST FREE.

BRITISH Cycle Mfg. Co. (1901), Ltd. (Dept. A), 1 & 3, Berry St., LIVERPOOL

WATSON'S "BLUE BAND" WHISKY

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—
Won't the Veto Bill finally cause more "Contention" than "Content" in the House of Lords?
Wasn't Central Hull a decided "give away"?
Has the Insurance Bill made the doctors sick?
When shall we have a Business Exhibition at Westminster?
Isn't the Coronation "boom" merely a "report"?
Weren't some clever people rather at a loss after the Derby?
Is "physic-all" culture what the General Medical Council prefers?
Is the suffragette question still one of "wait"?
Will the "paper-bag" cook the goose of the tinsmith?
Won't aviators be able to get "above the law"?
Is "The Job Secretary"—just published—a political story?

Strange, that the majority of Coronation seats will be stands.

"Humour is God's universal medicine," says Mr. Jerome. It all depends upon how it is taken.

Diamond Stud won at Haydock Park. Showed well in front, of course.

"Mr. Harry Lauder's bust in the Royal Academy," we read. The natural result of a side-splitting favourite.

"Gambling in First Editions," says a heading. We always thought it was the fourth edition that gave the tips.

The principal London statues are to be cleansed for the Coronation. This will give the present generation a chance of seeing them.

The complete Census returns will weigh three hundred tons. Weighty information.

A contemporary alludes to the "peerless" Pavlova. We trust th will remains so.

"The average crowd is generous-minded," says Dr. Macnamara. Yes, you can get a good bit of its mind without any trouble.

The Tottenham man who complained, "We were on our way to church when she said 'No,'" may yet learn that he is better off without a better-half.

A railway company has decided that sweeps shall travel only in the guard's van. This will make them look blacker than ever.

"The longest life is but an elementary school," says Lady Warwick. In which the lowest classes learn the hardest lessons.

BRITISH AND BEST.

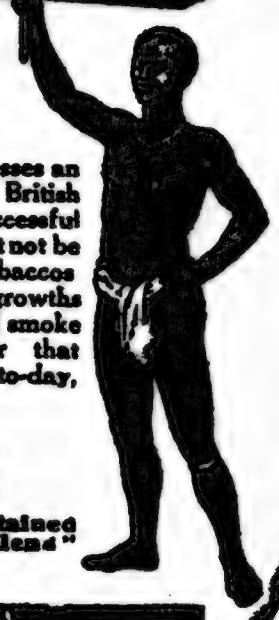
Your skin will tell you which Shaving Soap is purest. Use "Erasmic" and satisfaction is yours.

BEST, PUREST, and ALL BRITISH.

"Erasmic" SHAVING STICK

A Tobacco Discovery

HILL'S Nyasa Smoking Mixture



Unlike all other tobacco—possesses an individuality of its own. To British taste, it is the first really successful tobacco grown in Africa. It must not be confused with Boer or other Tobaccos Equal to the best American growths yet at a moderate price A cool smoke of pleasing aromatic flavour that burns free to the last. Try it to-day, you will be delighted.

Price 5d. per oz.,
Cartridges 5½d.

Nyasa Mixture can also be obtained extra coarse cut "Scotch Mixture" at the same price.

NYASA Cigarettes 10 for 3d.

If you are unable to obtain Hill's "NYASA" send a postcard to the sole makers, R. & J. Hill, Ltd., 11c, Shoreditch, London, E., who will supply List of Agents and Free Testing Samples if desired.

Blot out the record—

of a low wage and a long day. Why be a low wage long day man? With training you can secure a good post, good wages and good prospects. "How is it done?" you ask. The I.C.S. will teach you. The I.C.S. have trained and assisted over 4,000 men in one single year to better positions and brighter futures. No matter what your position, occupation or means, the I.C.S. can increase your wage-earning capacity.

Read the following:—

"Your Student's Aid Department has obtained a position for me with Chadburn's (Ship) Telegraph Co., Ltd., Bootle. It is entirely owing to your efforts that I have secured this more remunerative employment, for which please accept my best thanks. . . . I am convinced that through the I.C.S. lies the road to success."
(Signed) A. S. KING.

The I.C.S. training gives sound, practical wage-increasing knowledge. Spare time home-study only is required, on terms to suit your pocket All preliminary information free. Simply post this coupon.

"The way to Better Pay is the I.C.S way"

Better Position Coupon

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Please explain, without any obligation on my part, how I can qualify to enter, or to obtain a larger salary in, the occupation or profession before which I have marked X (or in the one stated here .....

—Engineering (state which) —Architecture —Book-keeping &
—Motor —Analytical Chemistry Business Training
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Over 180 other courses.

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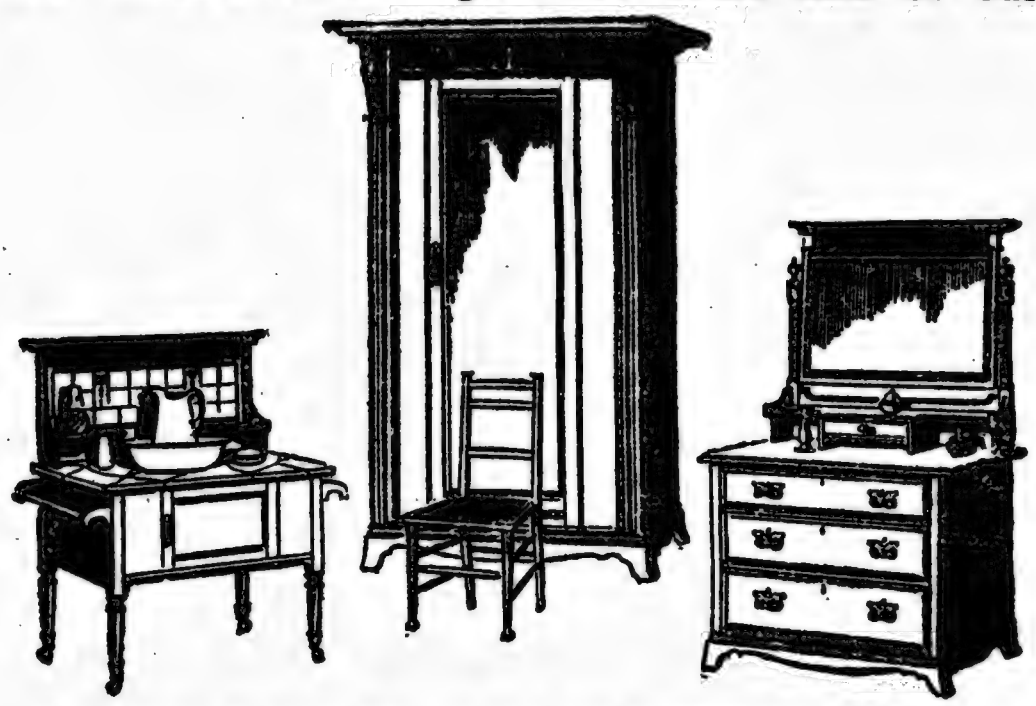
Whether you are furnishing throughout or only require a single article, we hope that our designs will appeal to you. Anything we sell can be absolutely relied upon for lasting wear.

Our greatest ambition is to please and satisfy our customers. As a proof that we have succeeded in doing this we are proud to mention that nearly one-half of our trade is with old customers and from recommendations.

The Suite illustrated will give one some idea of our value.



A new design Bedroom Suite, made in satin walnut with "Adam" detail. Thoroughly well constructed and finished. **£9 9 0**

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It may not always be convenient to disturb one's capital or investments in order to purchase furniture. Therefore, any article we sell, if desired, may be obtained by gradual payments. Our system of furnishing out of income is the fairest and most equitable ever devised. All goods supplied are marked at cash prices. NO deposit is required, and the payments may if desired be extended over one, two, or three years at the purchaser's option, and **we wish specially to point out that we add no interest or make any extra charge whatsoever.**

Our Catalogue entitled "Furniture and Furnishing" which contains over 600 illustrations will be sent free on application. This book will be found to be a great help to those wishing to furnish.

Being very anxious to increase our trade outside London, we will pay Customers' fares to Town on all orders of £30 and upwards.

Country orders packed free and carriage paid.

Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd.,

15, 17, 19, 21 & 23, Southampton Row,

HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Six doors from the Holborn Restaurant and Holborn Station (G.N., P. & B. Rly.), 1 minute from British Museum Station (Central London Railway), and 3 minutes from Oxford Street.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—*Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?*

CORRESPONDENTS, *when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of* ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and only those of general interest will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS *and* ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work when stamped, addressed envelopes are sent for the purpose.* ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as, *though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE *is increasing steadily. In future, we will disregard any letter which is not duly authenticated with name and address, which may be given in strict confidence.*

FORWARDING LETTERS, ETC.—*Our correspondence is growing so enormously that we have to discourage all idea of* PUTTING OUR READERS INTO COMMUNICATION WITH ONE ANOTHER. *If the practice grew, we should want an extra staff of clerks, fresh offices, and Jim Crow to keep the peace.*

O. J. S. O. (Merthyr Tydfil) says he cannot obtain winning lists from the *National Art Union*, though he sent 8d.

"AN ADMIRER" (Manchester).—The fact that the same people win different *competitions* is not in itself a proof of fraud.

G. H. (Stony Stratford).—We don't believe that *convents* are subjected to official sanitary inspection.

A. P. (Los Angeles, California) says that, if the Church of England remains so callous about *vivisection*, he prefers to remain just an ordinary sinner. Why not an ordinary Californian angel?

"PERPLEXED" (Pembridge).—We never heard of any age limit for *University degrees*. The fees are always welcome.

"JENKINSTOWN" (Cannock).—We do not know how you are going to force even *Unionist Clubs* to employ caretakers who have committed the unpardonable sin of having children. They prefer sterile unions.

W. B. (London, W.C.).—It certainly sounds hard, but we do not see how we can prevent *Employment Agencies* insisting upon a fee in advance. Why employ them at all?

S. C. D. (Tarleston) inquires if there is any *Government Loan Office* from which a private individual can obtain money for building and developing a piece of land. The answer is in the negative.

H. E. G. (Shepherd's Bush Road).—We quite agree that "the whole of our *County Court system* is more than prehistoric." In fact, we should need another deluge to clean it out.

"B.C. 806" thinks it unfair that people should be fined for preventing others from breaking the law—in other words, warning them against *police traps*. But P.C. Othello's occupation would be gone.

"CONSTANT READER" (Shrewsbury) says *Registry Offices* there make servants pay preliminary fees of 1s. But they need not unless they like.

Y. A. D. S. (Algiers) states that the *Salvation "Army"* touts on board ships in Italian ports, but is no good either to sailors or Italians.

G. T. (Finsbury Park) has come to the conclusion that the British Empire is a big fraud, but his only evidence is that, while *British paupers abroad* are repatriated by British consuls, there is no fatherly care for them on British soil.

C. E. O. (Farncombe) complains that the *Coal Smoke Abatement Society*, 25, Victoria Street, S.W., informed him that, however meritorious his inventions might be, the custom of the Society would not allow them to assist him.

W. D. (London, S.W.) wants the address of the *Friends of Nobody Club*, which certainly sounds as though it might fill a long-felt want.

E. G. H. (Haileybury) sends us a cutting alluding to a *chicken* as a wild animal. But we have eaten wild duck, and we suppose that, as there are wild sheep, there can also be wild mutton.

T. B. (Willesden).—The only way to become a *Freemason* is to find a member of the craft and ask him to put you up.

"ANTI-CLERIC" (Rhyl).—When *a parson's picture* appears at frequent intervals in a newspaper, you may conclude that he pays for it either in meal or in malt.

A. B. (Newton Abbot) is very angry because a certain person was acquitted on a charge of being concerned in an illegal operation. But it is always *difficult to judge a case* merely *from the newspaper* reports. Juries are not infallible, but they enjoy fuller opportunities than others for investigating the facts of a case.

"CROWBULL" (Liverpool) says he has never had any trouble in obtaining his winnings from *football commission agents*, and he thinks it is a mistake for us "to keep peppering Flushing" as we may thereby have induced the Dutch people to suppress betting. But the pepperers were victims of fraudulent firms.

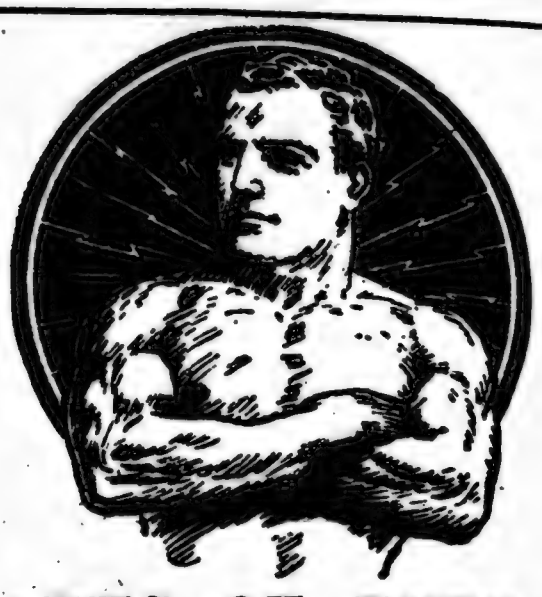
"MAC" (New Cross) draws our attention to a factory at Deptford where the girls are employed at a sweating wage. He alleges also that the *foreman and forewoman carry on a moneylending business* with the girls at high rates of interest. Before these lines appear we shall be on their track.

C. B. (Kennington) recently won an important action in the Westminster County Court, and is disgusted to find that it was not reported in the papers. He wants to know whether there is no way of paying money to suppress reports. What an idea!

"B. SCRE" says the *Lower Deck, Pit Sick and Burial Society, Blaina*, is very busy sending out books of lottery tickets. He thinks Flight, the secretary's name, ominous. Are there special terms for aviators?

"ONE OF THE SHIPWRECKED CREW" says that the Great Central Railway Company's s.s. *Blackburn* was sunk just before Christmas, and that the company refuses *compensation* to men who lost their property.

(Continued on page 930.)



SPARKS OF ENERGY.

If you feel tired and stupid, with no ambition to get out and hustle: if you have spells of despondency and a desire to give up the fight, you need new energy.

We can take a man like that and pump new energy into his body while he rests, and in a few weeks' time transform him into a giant of strength and courage. It is proved that energy and electricity are one and the same thing. If you lack this energy you can get it only by filling your nerves with electricity. The "Ajax" Dry Cell Body Battery does that. You put it on for an hour while resting, and feel its invigorating stream of electric life in your nerves, its vitalising spark in your blood. You are a different man, full of new life, new vim and courage enough to tackle anything.

The "Ajax" is a dry-cell body battery, an actual generator of its own current (not a storage battery), which infuses a steady force of electricity into the body as long as it is kept on. It does not shock—shocking currents should never be applied to the human body. As it makes its own power it is always ready for use. It builds up vitality and strength, and cures disease by removing the cause.

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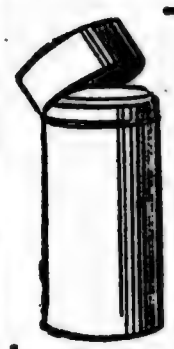

Note the Nickelled Box with convenient Hinged Cover.

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For 75 years comparison with other shaving soaps has been building up the prestige of Williams' Shaving Stick.

Won't *you* make the comparison yourself, for your own satisfaction?

Remember, you *must* find in Williams' Shaving Stick a greater luxury and satisfaction, a gentler shave, a greater feeling of comfort, or we cannot hope that you will join those hundreds of thousands who have adopted Williams' in preference to all other shaving sticks.

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65, Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

Branches in all parts of the world.

Head office and factories, Glastonbury, Conn., U.S.A.

The Genuine Williams' Shaving Stick may be had in the new nickelled, hinged cover box, or in the well-known leatherette-covered metal box.

Williams' Shaving Stick

"The only kind that won't smart or dry on the face"

CAUTION. There are spurious imitations of Williams' Shaving Stick. Be sure that your Shaving Stick always bears the name, viz.—THE J. B. WILLIAMS CO., Glastonbury, Conn., U.S.A.

WONDERFUL

3 Days' Conqueror

DRINK HABIT

I averaged to drink a quart of whisky every 24 hours; and beer, etc., additionally. For 16 years I kept it up, and was regarded as a hopeless case.

While drifting from bad to worse, as all slaves of King Alcohol do, I unexpectedly found a true cure. It was (and is) genuine. It saved my life. My health was quickly restored. I became and am a respectable man, enjoying every benefit of freedom from the accursed alcohol. I speedily and naturally lost all desire for drink. I took less and less, I began to prefer tea, coffee, and other non-alcoholic liquids; the craving for liquor ceased, I could sleep perfectly, my stomach became well, and I recovered from other ailments which I now know were due to my indulgence in strong drink. I was cured in only three days. By fortunate circumstances I learned the True Method of genuine cure for alcoholism (drink habit) with or without the drinker's knowledge. My Treatment is by far the best in the world, is endorsed by physicians and legions of testimonials. I will send you ample proof.

ALCOHOLISM ERADICATED

Are you a Drinker? Do you wish to cure yourself? If so, here's my hand, my warmest sympathy, and my positive assurance that within seventy-two hours after you obtain my remedies you will be better satisfied with yourself than ever in your life. You will not be sick during my three Days' Treatment; you need lose no time; nobody will know what has caused you to give up beer for ever unless you choose to tell. You can enter public-houses, or even pour out whisky, without feeling the slightest temptation. You will be cured to stay cured. Think of what you waste in money, think of how your life is being shortened. Get rid of the craving for ever. Be a man among men. You can do wonderful work if not drinking. My A. treatment will cure you.

GET THE GENUINE CURE

Do you want to cure someone who is near and dear to you? Then my treatment is what you should get. Do not be misled by what seems to be cheaper, but what is absolutely valueless, and means a waste of time as well as money. Do not imagine that because some advertised remedy cured just one woman's husband, it is universally reliable. Consider how many cases it has cured. Read the Testimonials. If you have made the mistake of buying something which has done or is doing no good, abandon it and get the true method, which cures in seventy-two hours by the clock.

The Woods' Method is known the world over: it is being endorsed and recommended everywhere. Why? Because it is the most successful and most inexpensive, genuine treatment that exists.

ABSOLUTELY FREE

I will send you my book, in plain wrapper, promptly, post paid. It tells of my own career and the wonderful discovery, and gives valuable advice. No other book like it. I especially appeal to those who have wasted money on treatments or remedies which have no satisfactory effect. Mention whether person is willing to be cured or if you need to cure him of drink habit without his knowledge.

EDWARD J. WOODS, 10, Norfolk St. (306J), Strand, W.C.

KEEP DRY

KEEP WARM

IT ACCOMPANIES EVERY "OMNE TEMPUS" COAT.

"OMNE TEMPUS" (Regd.)

Is the only real Raincoat, because it is the only Rubberless Raincoat that bears a definite, unqualified, printed Guarantee. This is your safeguard.

Ready for wear or made to measure **45/-**

SOLELY OBTAINABLE FROM:

Samuel Brothers

65 & 67, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

Or from Country Agents (list of names on request)

ESTABLISHED 80 YEARS.

In close Woven Tweeds for Present Weather.

"Jason"

ALL WOOL UNSHRINKABLE SOCKS AND STOCKINGS

CROWN ALL

The reason for the superiority of "Jason" over all other hose is that it possesses the three essentials of perfect hose.

1. **It is all-wool.**
2. **It is absolutel unshrinkable.**
3. **It has a soft silk-like finish—the result of the "Jason" process.**

It is comfortable, hygienic, and perfect fitting. Further—it is British made. As "Jason" costs no more than ordinary hose *insist* on having it when next buying. Do not be put off with the "just as good" kind.

Men's Hose—plain, ribbed and in vertical stripes, art shades.
Ladies' Hose—plain, ribbed, lace, and in vertical stripes, art shades.
Children's Hose and Socks—plain, ribbed, lace and embroidered in all fancy colours.

Of all Drapers, Hosiers, and Outfitters everywhere

In case of difficulty, write—

Jason Hosiery Co., Leicester.

F15.

R. H. AND SON (Bury St. Edmunds) say they paid the *Commercial Bureau Directory* (St. Leonards Avenue, Bedford) 2s. 6d. for the insertion of an advertisement. Hearing no more, they wrote to inquire and their letter was returned "not known."

J. E. H. (Shipley) gives us details of Thomas Green and Co., who advertised *parcels of rubbish* under various aliases. He says that a man who called himself Haley took part of a small warehouse at a rent of 5s. a week and soon did such a huge business that the local Post Office had to increase the parcels staff by two men. As soon as the scandal became too hot, the business was nominally sold and re-started under another name. The police confess they cannot do anything to the rogues because they always give what they state in their advertisements, namely, forty or fifty useful household articles, such as one dozen buttons, one dozen pins, half a dozen bootlaces, so many hooks and eyes, needles, etc.

"FAIR PLAY" (Aberdeen) inquires about *W. Hutt* (5, Garrock Footdee, Aberdeen), who offers the means of earning £4 to £12 weekly by the sale of articles, and wants a preliminary payment of 1s. 1d.

H. E. (Brixton) says "Some of the later settlers in Massachusetts were persecutors, but not the *Pilgrim fathers*." But we do not place much reliance upon the evidence of Bancroft, the alleged historian.

T. J. S. (Hammersmith) says young Egyptians are not the only offenders in London, for "*young Indians, Burmans*, and young fellows from other Eastern States are terrors for getting credit and not paying. My mother invested her life's savings in a boarding house in Bayswater. A foreigner with a high-sounding name would be introduced, studying with such and such a coach for the Indian Civil Service, his guardian would be an officer (perhaps a General) in the Army. The first few weeks' accounts would be paid, and then would come an excuse not to pay. The account would go to say £5 or £6 (in one case I remember it was £16), the dusky gentleman would say he had no money and would then disappear with his one or two Gladstone bags, all the luggage he possessed. An appeal to the guardian would result in a formal letter disclaiming any liability for his charge's debts. We invariably found *West Indians* to be good payers, our experience was the inhabitants of the East were the rotters, and it was surprising the number of tradesmen who invariably called after the beauties had decamped."

R. C. (Treherbert) sent 7d. to R. Dickson and Co. (42, Junction Road, N.) for a *moustache forcer*, and was told he could only have it on sending 1s. 11d. more. Of course he ought to have had his 7d. back, but we congratulate him on his escape from the moustache forcer. Why not be grateful to Providence for having given him a clean face?

"NERO" (Saxmundham) inquires about the *Rupture Aid Society* (59, Westwood Street, Accrington), who ask for 27s. 6d. for a truss. It was certainly very clever of them to find out that he was a sufferer, but we should advise him to be content with the services of an ordinary doctor.

R.W. (Scunthorpe) says people have been induced by false pretences to sign agreements for *railway cabinet advertisements*, and the victims when sued do not care about the trouble of going all the way to Sheffield to contest the case.

"A CONSTANT READER" (London, W.) is another person with a grievance against the *Lyric Theatre*. He exhibited a bill of the "Chocolate Soldier" for a long time on the understanding that he would be paid in tickets. When he first applied for his reward he was told they were too busy. When he applied again in Passion Week, knowing they would be slacker, he received a curt note bidding him take down the bill and destroy the frame, but no allusion to their obligations. At least that is what he says.

H. A. W. (Huddersfield) wants a "good working *definition of* what constitutes *a libel*." The best we can suggest is a fair comment on a matter of public interest which in the opinion of the judge or jury ought to have been hushed up.

The HON. SEC. of the *Wimbledon Rink Hockey Club* says that all the competitors in the tug-of-war knew that the prize advertised as worth a guinea was really a box of Beecham's pills. In that case the joke must have lacked the element of unexpectedness when the distribution was made.

J. W. (Warcop).—We rather agree with the parson who said that, if the sun was not so far off *some people would monopolise* it and sell its *heat and light* to their poorer brethren at a profit. Why do you regard this as unscientific? It reads to us like a very practical commercial proposition.

H. S. (Maida Vale) has evidently had his leg pulled. He wants us to take up "a scandal greater than all others," namely, the fact that "every *priest entering a nunnery* day or night can claim a husband's privilege. To complain is to rebel against the will of God. When her condition due to the natural result of these associations becomes known, she is doomed to a life of slavery in comparison the life of a slave is Paradise. Nothing of this may be known outside." It certainly is not.

MR. L. H. FALCK (solicitor, 19, Finsbury Circus, E.C.), writes—apropos of the enquiry of "Vivace" (Aldridge) about the Foyer a l'Ecole *Scholastic Association*, 19, *Cranbury Avenue, Southampton*—that the advertisement was issued by the "Foyer" in its own name, inviting applications from families who were willing to receive French boys as residents, and the circular which was sent to all applicants asked for references, and information as to price of rooms, board, locality, etc., etc., in order to establish the suitability of the applicants to receive boys whom the "Foyer" intends to send to England during the approaching summer months. Mr. Falck also says that Le Foyer a l'Ecole has been conducted for the past five years under the patronage of the French Ministers of Public Instruction and Commerce, and sends annually 300 or 400 boys to England, and 500 or 600 boys to other European countries. As the advertisement in question only asked for addresses of apartments, it cannot, of course, be construed into a round-about way of obtaining custom.

[We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.]

JOHN BULL'S BIOSCOPE.

A series of Bioscope views depicting how JOHN BULL and *Mrs. Bull* are produced, is being shown in various towns and cities on the cinematograph of the "John Bull Entertainment." To-day (Thursday) the car will be in Brockenhurst (Blacksmith's Shop); Friday, Lymington (The Scouts' Ground); Saturday, Christchurch (The Fountain); Monday and Tuesday, Bournemouth; Wednesday, Poole; and readers and their friends should not fail to see these well-known periodicals "in the making."

This is the Suit that Well-Dressed Londoners are Now Wearing.

ONLY 30/- FOR THIS £3 3 0 "REGO HYDE PARK" SUIT.

For 30s., it is now possible to obtain this most popular of all suits amongst well-dressed Londoners.

This is the suit the ordinary price of which is 3 guineas—and even more. Yet you can have it made to measure and fitting you to perfection for only 30s.

Why is this suit called the "Hyde Park"? Well, visit Hyde Park and you will understand. There you will see officers, Members of Parliament, smart West-end clubmen, wearing this fashionably cut lounge suit. It is the most popular suit of the year in London. Order it now and you will have it ready for the Coronation festivities, when everyone will be looking their best and smartest in honour of His Majesty the King and the Empire. A glance at the illustration shows you the general air of handsome distinction and masculine strength the "Rego Hyde Park" gives to its wearer.

The "Rego Hyde Park" wears well, fits well and always looks well. It displays tailoring perfection such as only London cutters and tailors can create. And the new patterns and designs in suitings for this suit are most attractive.

You can get this suit in time for the Coronation.

There is just time—if you order at once—to get this suit delivered before the Royal festivities commence. Call at any of the addresses below and choose your material. The patterns will delight you.

MADE TO YOUR EXACT MEASUR FOR 30/- No Extras.

If you cannot call, write for free selection of patterns and full particulars. All will be sent you free.

Call or write to-day for—

FREE TO YOU TO-DAY.

(1) Free Selection of Coronation patterns in Suitings.
(2) Copy of the "Coronation Number" of "Fashions for Men" (the magazine which describes and pictures all the latest tailoring fashions as worn by the best-dressed men in London.
(3) Full particulars of the "Rego Hyde Park" 3-guinea Lounge Suit for 30s., with "Rego" Self-Measurement Form.

The London tailoring centres where the above can be obtained are as follows:—

G. W. Rosenberg (The "Rego" Clothiers), Ltd.

(Publishers of "Fashions for Men" Sample Copy Free.)

(Dept., M.) 112, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

LONDON, W.C.—280, High Holborn.
LONDON, N.—265, Pentonville Road.
KING'S CROSS.—40, Caledonian Rd.
HIGHGATE.—601, Holloway Road.
CLAPHAM JUNCTION.—27, St. John's Road.
PUTNEY.—31, High Street.
BALHAM.—103, High Road.
PECKHAM.—100, Rye Lane.
RICHMOND.—40, George Street.
LONDON, W.—288, Edgware Road.
CAMDEN TOWN.—183, High Street.
KINGSLAND.—4, High Street, N.E.
BRIXTON.—18, Atlantic Road.
FINSBURY PARK.—259, Seven Sisters Road.
ILFORD.—58, Broadway.
KINGSTON.—24, Clarence Street.
ALDGATE.—19-20, Aldgate, E.C.
WALHAM GREEN.—14, The Broadway.
HAMMERSMITH.—109, King Street.
DEPTFORD.—3, Broadway.

All interested in British tailoring perfection are flocking to the Rego Exhibit in the Textile Section at the Festival of Empire, Crystal Palace. Here you can see the 12 most fashionable suits, overcoats, &c., of the new Season, and everything that goes to make up the complete tailoring outfit of the modern, well-dressed gentleman. It is London tailoring at its best—all-British throughout—and the pick of the exhibition as far as men's tailoring is concerned. Pay it a visit and see.

SOMETHING NEW IN COMPETITIONS.

"VERDICTS"

£100 IN PRIZES.

The idea of "Verdicts" is as follows:—

In MRS. BULL each week are given Twelve Unfinished Verdicts, and your task will be to complete any single one of them or several of them if you choose. In fact, you may send in as many Finished Verdicts as you like, provided, of course, you comply with the conditions of the Competition.

This week MRS. BULL is a Total Abolitionist, or rather pretends to be, for the purpose of the Competition.

The things which come under her ban this week and which should be abolished are:—

(1) The Hobble Skirt. (2) Killjoys. (3) Work. (4) Matrimonial Agents. (5) Suet Dumplings. (6) Bazaars. (7) Motor-'Buses. (8) Street Preaching. (9) The Party System. (10) Bad Whisky. (11) German Bands. (12) Rent Day.

What you have to do.

Take any one of the above subjects and complete the verdict.

For instance, take No. 1, the Hobble Skirt. The Hobble Skirt should be abolished because—

.....

After the word "because" you are to complete the sentence, but **you must not use more than ten words in doing so.**

Your verdicts—that is to say, the completing words—must be taken from the current week's issue of MRS. BULL, "John Bull," or "Lotinga's Weekly."

They may be taken from any part of the papers, even from the advertisements.

Let me illustrate my meaning by examples taken from last week's issue of MRS. BULL. To complete the Verdict—

1. **The Hobble skirt should be abolished because—**
"It is not the style of thing to suit."
I find these words on p. 175, c. 1, l. 14.

2. **Killjoys should be abolished because—**
"I know they are a deadly sham."
These words are to be found on p. 166, c. 1, l. 15.

The words need not be a complete sentence, but they must be consecutive. Accordingly you may not drop out any word or words in the sentence chosen.

It is for you to make "Verdicts" on any of the twelve subjects which I have given above, and your Verdicts must be taken from this week's issue of MRS. BULL, "John Bull," or "Lotinga's Weekly."

Conditions of Entry.

1. Your Verdicts must be written on coupons taken from the current week's issue of MRS. BULL, "John Bull," or "Lotinga's Weekly." If the coupon is too small for your Verdict, you may paste it to a sheet of paper, and write the Verdict on the paper, but in **every** case a coupon must be sent.
2. You are entitled to two attempts for each coupon.
3. For every two Verdicts you send you must remit a Postal Order for Sixpence, made payable to the Editor, MRS. BULL, and crossed "and Co."
4. To the senders of the ten best lines, large Cash Prizes will be awarded, and other Cash Prizes to numbers of others. **I guarantee that not less than £100 will be awarded this week.**
5. The Editor's decision will be absolutely final, and readers may enter only on that clear understanding.

Remember you can send two Verdicts for each Sixpence that you remit. You are not bound to send two. One alone may win.

All Verdicts for the First Competition must reach MRS. BULL, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., by Tuesday, June 13th. Mark your envelopes "Verdicts."

COUPON No. 1, closing Tuesday, June 13.

VERDICTS COMPETITION.

_____ should be abolished because.....

.....

I find this on Page Col. Line

_____ should be abolished because .....

I find this on Page Col. Line

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

No of Postal Order ... .

AND THERE'S MONEY IN IT.

TO H.M. THE KING

"Black & White" Whisky

Jas. Buchanan & Co., Ltd.,
Glasgow & London.

Robinson & Cleaver's

IRISH LINEN

Irish Linen Handkerchiefs.

No. 27.—Ladies' all-linen, hemstitched, American size (about 13ins. square), with ½-in. hem, 5/3 per doz.

No. 10.—Ladies' linen Initial handkerchiefs, with Initial centred into wheatear and butterfly design, 7/11 per doz.

No. 20.—Gentlemen's cambric Handkerchiefs, tape or corded borders, about 21 ins. square, 5/3 per doz.

No. 60.—Gentlemen's Initial Handkerchiefs, pure linen, finely hemstitched, about 19½ ins. square, with ½-in. hem, 8/6 per doz.

Irish Collars and Shirts.

"Castle" Collars, Linen faced, single shapes 4/11, double shapes 5/11 per dozen. "Matchless" Shirts with four-fold fronts and cuffs for dress or day wear, each, 5/11.

Carriage Paid on orders of £1 and upwards. **Robinson & Cleaver** Ltd. *Samples and illustrated list free on request.*

LONDON. 44, E, Donegall Place, BELFAST. LIVERPOOL.

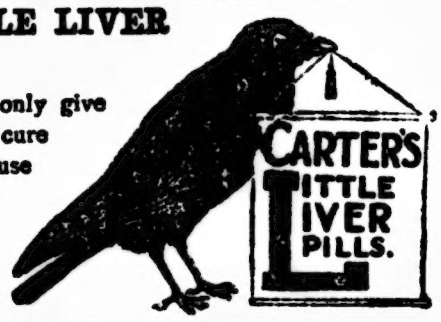
The Army of Constipation

IS GROWING SMALLER EVERY DAY.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

are responsible—they not only give relief—they permanently cure **Constipation.** Millions use them for

Biliousness, Indigestion, Sick Headache, Sallow Skin.



Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price.

GENUINE must bear Signature.

Brent Good

TECLA ARTIFICIAL PEARLS.

7, Old Bond Street, London,
10, Rue de la Paix, Paris,
16, Avenue Massena, Nice,
398, Fifth Avenue, New York.

BIRKBECK BANK (Established 1851.)

Southampton Buildings, High Holborn, W.C.

2½ PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on Deposits repayable on demand.

2 PER CENT. INTEREST ON Drawing Accounts, with Cheque Books.

All General Banking Business transacted. ALMANACK, with full particulars, POST FREE.

C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary.

The Sphere Suspender

FOR GENTLEMEN'S WEAR, also in suitable styles for LADIES' WEAR. The smartest and most comfortable suspender in the world: prices 1/- to 2/6. On sale everywhere. If unable to procure send P.O., with 1d. for postage, to SPHERE SUSPENDER Co., Leicester. *Illus. folder free.*

RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.

("*Larry Lynx*" *of* THE PEOPLE, "*Double U. L.*" *of* LOTINGA'S WEEKLY, *and* "*Maggie*" *of* THE GLOBE.)

Medley.

There are still more "fat" than "fit" horses running in our races.

From the beginning of June it is always good odds on the two-year-olds beating the older horses in races of mixed age.

Plenty of owners and trainers won't name their two-year-olds, declaring that they are not worth the dollar registration fee.

When a King's premium stallion travels he is always entitled to an extra half-guinea fee from the owner of each mare.

Racecourses seem to be springing up all over Canada, the latest completed being at Prince Rupert's, in the north of British Columbia, where 18 days' racing is to be held during this year.

Prophetic.

Manchester's most important meeting of the year ought to give FIRST FLIGHT an opportunity to break Joyner's ill-luck if contesting the Beaufort Handicap, whilst in the Cup, my vote once again must be given each way to

ANCHORA,

who has been specially saved for it since her surprising defeat at Bath. It is clear that whichever runs for R. C. Dawson's stable, particularly the top weight, BUCKWHEAT, must be tremendously dangerous, in fact favourite, for Buckwheat ran right "on top" of Lemberg and the others at Epsom, whilst it was he who would have won the Jubilee had Bachelor's Double been absent.

At Gatwick, which clashes, AYE AYE, if not penalised in the interim, will go close for the Horseshoe Handicap, and even yet again, VALIDE is going to be backed for a trifle *each way* in the Veranda Handicap, in which little Davis rides her.

AN INTERESTING EXHIBIT AT THE FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE.

At one of the open-air kiosks at the Festival of Empire, Crystal Palace, a rainproof yet self-ventilating cloth called the "Omne Tempus" is subjected without intermission to a practical test that is really very convincing. A yard or so of the cloth is suspended aslant in the air, with streams of water playing freely on it. The sceptical are freely permitted to rub the back of the cloth in the very spot where the water is playing, but the friction will not draw the water through. The fact that tobacco smoke can be blown through is proof positive that the "Omne Tempus" cloth really excludes rain but admits air, and is consequently healthy and comfortable, with none of the close "Turkish bath" feeling of the rubber mackintosh.

Samuel Brothers, Ltd., the old-established tailors and outfitters, of Ludgate Hill, are the exhibitors, and they inform us that the "Omne Tempus" is their exclusive property, can only be obtained from themselves or their country agents, and that there is *no other* rubberless raincoat in the wide world with a definite, unqualified guarantee that it will keep out *all* the rain.

A ROYAL APPOINTMENT.

Rudge-Whitworth, Ltd., have just had the honour of supplying to the order of His Majesty the King a new bicycle for H.R.H. Princess Mary. It is one of their well-known No. 2 Aero-Special lady's bicycles, and is fitted with three-speed gear. While the machine was being adjusted at Buckingham Palace to suit Princess Mary, it was inspected by Her Majesty the Queen, who expressed her satisfaction with its appearance, stating that it looked very pretty indeed. The Prince of Wales also tried the machine, and expressed the opinion that it was a beauty. It is well known that the Prince of Wales and other Royal Princes are keen cyclists, and their machines also are Rudge-Whitworths. Messrs. Rudge-Whitworth, Ltd., will send post free to any reader their fully illustrated catalogue on receipt of a postcard addressed to them at Coventry, mentioning Dept. 379.

BRAVO! THE RACING STUD SPECIAL!! BRAVO.!!

Praised by the S. LIFE, Larry Lynx of the PEOPLE, JOHN BULL, &c. RACING WORLD says. "Big wins for years past." next Monday's issue will give in bold type four big money-making gems. All four will win at nice prices—Don't Miss. Last week we gave George Augustus won, Chinchilla won, Wise Gipsy won, Chieveley 3rd. Patrons show friends. Post £1 for Five "One Horse" wires, or we will guarantee to wire you twelve big winners for 35/-. Post early.

87, HIGH ROAD, TURNHAM GREEN, LONDON.

THE OPEN ROAD.

A REMARKABLE BOOK on "SYSTEMS," written by a retired Signalman. This handsomely illustrated Book will show you how you may avoid Turf losses. It will prove to you the advantages of Systematic investments. How the writer in the long night hour in the Signal Box discovered a System which has won him a fortune. It will not only show you how this fortune has been made, but will show you how you may do the same. No need for you to delay. The Book is free for stamped address.

Write now to "PLAYFAIR," Radford Rd. Leamington Spa.

STRAIGHT DEALING SOUND PRINCIPLES SURE PAYMENTS

IF you are looking for a reliable firm of Turf Commission Agents, write for Rules to

LESLIE GORDON & CO.

47, Margaret Street, Regent Street, London, W.

They offer you terms unequalled by any reliable firm combining generosity with fairness.

NO LIMIT TO WIN. NO DEDUCTION. NO COMMISSION.

Place Betting when the favourite starts odds on.

Telephones: 8682 City; 8683 City. Telegrams: "Certogord, London."

PROFITABLE RACING

Client's Unanimous Verdict.

ABSOLUTELY STRAIGHT!

I have evolved a system of supporting horses which when used in conjunction with the exceedingly Reliable Information I am in a position to obtain, is proving well nigh infallible.

The nett gain last season was

£876 16 0

on a bank of £3, and out of a total of 134 days' racing it won on 118 days (dealing with one race per day only), the longest run of loses never exceeding three days whilst against this there were numerous runs of five and six winning days, and I am pleased to say that so far this season I have quite maintained the same splendid average of winners. Since March 20 last to the 31st instant, the guaranteed nett profits (on the same bank) is

£177 18 4

The system is specially calculated to produce the maximum of profit with the minimum of loss, and to enable backers to retain what they have already won. Some recent results are:—

BONNETTY BOB. 17. BAKER'S BOY. BALBLAIR. LE TOUQUET. HOWICK. FIDELIO. SUNRIGHT. JERSEY BELLE. PROTESTANT BOY. MONDRAGONE. MINTO. ROEDEAN. JINKS GELDING. S. DELAVAL. Proof "Sporting Chronicle."

Within the past fifty days I have wired thirty-two winners (one race a day), thus maintaining my usual average of 60 per cent. winners.

For particulars of past working and terms apply (post card marked "John Bull" will do) to

F. PERCIVAL.

Telephone No. 12598 Central. Argyll Chambers, 106, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

Wise men will observe I am the only System Specialist to advertise results, and same will be seen in "Sporting Chronicle" daily.

BERT FRY, FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

DON'T OPEN A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT UNLESS CONVENIENT. Send 1s. up to £2, and your commissions are executed at S.P if post-marked before 1 p.m. DAY OF RACE. NO LIMIT. PLACE BETTING 1, 2, if only five runners. PLACE BETTING whether odds on favourite or not.

N.B.—On and after June 11th next, my postal address will be:—

Bert Fry, BASLE, SWITZERLAND.

PAUL COVERDALE, TURF ACCOUNTANT.

(Sole Proprietor, Charles Villiers Chapman.)

"*One of the largest operators of the present day.*"—*Vide THE PRESS.*

NO LIMIT. Books open on all future events.

NO COMMISSION. Double events a speciality.

Write for my Illustrated Book of Sporting Records for 1911, the most interesting Guide and Record on Sporting matters ever offered to the public; also my terms for Credit Accounts to my sole address: 24-26, MADDOX STREET, LONDON, W.

Telegrams: "Repayable, London." 'Phones, 890 Mayfair, (10 Lines).

J. McLAUCHLAN,

Estab. 19 years. { Turf Accountant, etc., FLUSHING, HOLLAND.

Write for Price List, Rules, Ready-reckoner, etc.

FUTURE EVENTS A SPECIALITY.

CREDIT ACCOUNTS:—Write 78, Princes Street, Edinburgh.
TELEGRAMS:—"Gallop," Edinburgh.
Letter Commissions, 3, Crown Place, Leith. Payments Nightly.

GIVEN GRATIS.

Mr. Gould, of Bradford, is giving the HOP BITTERS prescription to all who care to write for it. It has been the means of restoring many a sufferer to health whose case was considered hopeless. Cases of Paralysis, of Sleeplessness, Loss of Appetite, Liver and Kidney Trouble, Indigestion and Constipation have all disapeared under its influence. Proof is supplied with each prescription. Anyone in possession of this harmless vegetable recipe can for one shilling make the 4s. 6d. size bottle—and is sent free to all who mention this paper, enclosing a stamp for postage Write—Mr. GOULD, 63, Holme Top Street, Bradford, Yorks.

A Turf Method which can be **DEPENDED UPON** to win money, and to win money **INVARIABLY**—A Turf Method which completely converts the proposed end in view, viz., money-making by means of Turf investments—into a safe and unconditionally certain issue without fail—a Turf Method which, while rendering you POSITIVELY SURE of winning, enables you to

MAKE MONEY ON THE TURF ABSOLUTELY WITHOUT THE RISK OF SPECULATION!

ALLEN'S DAILY SYSTEM WIRES

AND

ALLEN'S METHOD OF INVESTMENT!

(Copyright. Entered Stationers' Hall.)

EVERY SINGLE CLIENT SUCCESSFUL RIGHT FROM THE START!!!

EVERYONE CAN WIN A FORTUNE!!!

RACING ON ABSOLUTELY INVINCIBLE LINES!!!

NOTHING in the ANNALS of the TURF CAN COMPARE with these

Winner Finding Daily System Advices

The undeniably solid winning consistency regularly and infallibly produced by means of my

UNCONDITIONALLY SUCCESSFUL METHOD

CONSTITUTES THE MOST ASTOUNDING MONEY-MAKING PHENOMENON ON THE TURF TO-DAY!!!

The Recognised Triumphant Turf Advice!!

My great business is totally unique! My "Daily System Wires" must **not** be confused with what is ordinarily termed "information!" I have the most exclusive and authenic information at all times, certainly, but that comprises only **one half** of any business! My business constitutes

A TOTALLY UNPRECEDENTED DEVELOPMENT!

in connection with Racing. I have spared no effort, no expense, to attain perfection in regulating, once and for all, the contingencies of Racing in such a manner as to produce

A QUITE NEW FACTOR

which infallibly renders one definite particular issue **alone inevitable**—namely, the making of a **profit without fail!!!** I bring within everyone's reach rational, sound,

INVINCIBLE AND LUCRATIVE RACING

which will enable each and every client, once and for all to continue permanently deriving a sure regular income from the Turf!!! Please let it be quite plainly understood that I absolutely

Assure You a Regular Income!

An Income that can be depended upon. I make no exception and assure every single client without fail. If **you** can find I do **not** assure **you** a regular income each season I will

RETURN YOUR MONEY IN FULL

absolutely without reduction, defraying all telegraphic and other expenses myself! Nothing could possibly be fairer!

LET ME RAISE UP AN INCOME FOR YOU!

Everyone can Start with £3 Capital!

PROFITS FREQUENTLY EXCEED £10 DAILY!

FORTUNES BEING WON!

Remember the one and only possible issue, **always** is the
UNCONDITIONAL CERTAINTY
of a Substantial profit for you!!!

MY FREE BOOK!

containing 56 p.p. of descriptive detailed accounts of my unique business, and full explanations, proofs, etc., etc. Also my

SELECTIONS FOR 1909, 1910, & 1911

A record of unexampled merit of "Right" selections!

Write your name and address and the words "John Bull" on a postcard, and by return of post you will receive this great free book in PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPE!

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The following claims have been received for our issues of April 22nd and 29th:—

MRS. E. BARNETT, 14, Lucerne Road, Thornton Heath, S.E. No. 574,735. April 22nd.

R. MASON, 4, Park Terrace, Langlands Road, Govan. No. 270,722. April 29th.

F. COPPOCK, 56, Gloucester Road, Bootle, Liverpool. No. 510,267. April 29th.

T. G. SPARKES, "Ferndale," The Drive, Southbourne, Emsworth. No. 33,585. April 29th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of May 13th:—

7707	138490	313071	562553	723036
26157	173229	335548	573725	734149
30907	178253	346344	580554	739887
35010	183702	372099	585577	752289
43283	205968	427596	619494	755783
55245	224044	443059	632786	771568
58596	238479	457712	663241	775524
76373	245707	483890	674649	821346
103639	267551	516130	683206	833062
123347	276020	532290	693658	838975

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED JULY 8TH (PUBLISHED JULY 6TH).

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Mr. Douglas Stuart is the only Turf Accountant who has EVER been allowed to advertise in the "Pall Mall Gazette."

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☞ **PLACE COMMISSIONS** even when FAVOURITE starts ODDS ON.

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